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OF

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Vol II.

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நா. சுப்ரமணியம்.
செப்புனிடுவதற்காக எடுத்துக்
கொள்ளப்பட்ட

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INTRODUCTION

It is hardly necessary for the Compiler of this volume to introduce himself, as he is already well known to the public having built up no mean reputation in this class of publication both in India and outside.

In presenting this volume to the public, the intention of the compiler is to preserve the continuity of the work already undertaken by him.

Further series of the work with a wealth of detail and pictorial display would appear from time to time.

The compiler begs the indulgence of the public for the many acts of commission and omission in this production which is just;

(*a*) Who's who in S. India in landed aristocracy.

(*b*) Who's who ,, in learned professions.

(*c*) Who's who ,, in commerce.

It is very hard to aim at completeness in a complicated work of this kind and completeness can only be had by putting together the series issued from time to time. It is hardly necessary to state that these works are indispensable as standard works of reference.

The compiler has every confidence that the enlightened public will view the work in a generous light, and overlook his faults arising from the difficulties of such compilation. It may be mentioned that every line of the volume is a matter of detail and they have been collected by the personal calls of his literary representatives who are sent out for this purpose to distant places at great expense.

It may be mentioned that these works involve great expenditure of money and the maintenance of outdoor men alone is a heavy strain on the resources of the company.

The compiler therefore feels that the enlightened landed aristocracy and the public will strengthen his hands by their willing co-operation and increasing patronage and enable the compiler who is solely engaged on this service to his country to achieve better success in his future operations.

P. Lakshminarasiah,
Compiler and Editor.

CONTENTS

	Pages
Landed Aristocracy	1 to 41
Important Personages	42 to 76
Trade, Commerce and Industries	77 to 98
Illustrations	38

3

The Late Sri Maharajah Sir Goday Narayana Gajapathi Rao,
C.I.E., K.C.I.E., of Vizagapatam

ENCYCLOPÆDIA
OF
THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY
Vol. II.

THE LATE SHRI MAHARAJAH SIR GODAY NARAYANA GAJAPATHI RAO, C.I.E., K.C.I.E., S.G.T.G., OF VIZAGAPATAM.

Shri Maharajah Sir Goday Narayana Gajapathi Rao, C.I.E., K.C.I.E., S.G.T.G., etc., was the last lineal descendant of Shri Pedda Jagga Rao Garu, the progenitor of the Goday family, one of the most influential of the ancient and illustrious families in the Northern Circars, tracing its descent from Girirazu, a king of the Ikshvaku dynasty of the Solar race, and founder of the city of Bhogavathi.

So far back as the seventeenth century, Shri Jagga Rao Garu, had by his intelligence and high position won the attention of Mr. Andrews, the Chief in the service of East India Company, and was regarded by him as one eminently fitted to assist in the conduct of the affairs of the Company. Highly appreciative references to loans of 40,000 and 60,000 Pagodas given by this nobleman to the Company, and to the assistance he gave them on several occasions, by his credit and influence are to be found in letters received by the Company's Agents in England and India.

When in commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of Her late Imperial Majesty Queen Victoria, the Maharajah Gajapathi Rao presented a statue of Her Majesty to the City of Madras, Lord Connemara, the then Governor of Madras, spoke in highly eulogistic terms of the Maharajah's worthy grandfather, Shri Goday Jagga Rao Garu, who more than a hundred years before had earned the thanks of the Government of Fort St. George for his zeal and the assistance he rendered. The Maharajah's father, he stated, followed in the footsteps of his father, founded various charitable institutions, and during the famine of 1833 fed a large number of poor in the neighbourhood of Nellore. He also added largely to various public works, and established an Observatory with a view to assisting the Shipping on the Coast.

The worthy Representative of such distinguished ancestors, Shri Maharajah Gajapathi Rao, was born on 1st December, 1828. His infancy was passed in the precincts of his ancestral alls. With a father who fully appreciated the benefits of a liberal education, at a time when it did not find easy favour with many of the Conservatives among the Landed Aristocracy in the Circars, it was no wonder that the boy when scarcely five years of age began his studies, under the most careful supervision. He was taught the Telugu alphabet by Pundit Paravastu Srinivasa Chariar, and English by his maternal uncle, Shri Madina Jagga Rao Garu.

At the age of 12, the lad who showed signs of promise, and bade fair to be a clever and intelligent pupil, was sent to Calcutta, then involving a tedious journey of 700 miles by land for two months. This was a bold and unique step on the part of his father, and was alluded to thus by the Honourable Mr. D. F. Carmichael, in a speech made at the distribution of prizes to the successful students of the Madras Hindu Proprietary School in 1875 :—

> "I never heard of more than one Zemindar who had the courage to do this (to send his children to a distant Presidency town) ; he was Goday Surya Narayana Rao of Vizagapatam.
>
> "He had two sons, one he sent to the care of Mr. Taylor, the Government Astronomer at Madras, who turned him out a very accomplished student; he died however in early manhood.
>
> "The other son survives in the Honourable Gajapathi Rao, so forward in all good works, whom we have in our midst ; he was educated in the Hindu College, Calcutta."

Under the fostering care of Captain D. L. Richardson and Mr. Kerr, M.A., successively Principals of the Hindu College, Calcutta, and of Tutors such as the late Babu Ram Chunder Mitter and Mr. Knighton, B.A., in English, and Sankaram Sastri and Shimasekharam Sastri, in Bengali and Sanscrit, the young nobleman received that education and mental training which stood him in such good stead all through his long and noble life-time. Gentlemen of Indian reputation like Dwarakanath Tagore, Dr. Monatt, Dr. Carew, Archbishop of Calcutta, with lofty principles, and scholarly attainments also encouraged the young Maharajah in his literary pursuits. He was given the fullest opportunity for acquiring both an intimate knowledge of English and a liberal culture befitting one in his station, and for developing those traits of sympathy and love, with an ardent desire to work for the uplift of his countrymen, which so characterised his life.

H. E. Lord Auckland, then Viceroy of India, was greatly impressed with the young Maharajah's demeanour, and later on when visiting his College, made special inquiries after him.

Of the many public meetings the Maharajah attended during this period, the Proclamation of the Sikh Gangs, during the Viceroyalty of H. E. Lord Hardinge, and the meeting consequent to the Scotch and Irish famines, made a deep impression on his young mind. He was so moved to sympathy by the address of Dr. Carew and the grand peroration of Dr. Duff, that he could not rest satisfied until he wrote and obtained from his father at Vizagapatam, a princely donation to the famine fund at Calcutta.

After a stay of nine years in Calcutta, the Maharajah returned to Vizagapatam, in April 1849, his father considering it necessary he should now be trained with his elder brother, Shri Goday Venkata Jagga Rao, in the management of the family Estates. His return was the occasion of great public rejoicings and entertainments.

For four years Maharajah Gajapathi Rao was engaged in picking up departmental technicalities in the Revenue portfolio, and in gaining general information and knowledge requisite for the administrative functions of his Estates. In 1853 his father died, and the patrimony was amicably divided between the two sons, in accordance with the instructions left by the father before his demise.

Continuing the noble example of loyalty, public spirit, and philanthropy set by his ancestors, the Maharajah invariably took a prominent part in all works of public utility and improvement, and identified himself with every good movement, whether intellectual, social or political, that was started in the Presidency.

At a time, nearly three quarters of a century ago, when the Education Commission concluded that the time was not ripe for levying an educational cess, Maharajah Gajapathi Rao, in a mofussil station like Vizagapatam, promoted a movement, the pioneer of such enterprises in the Presidency, which resulted in the establishment of what is now the Mrs. A. V. N. College.

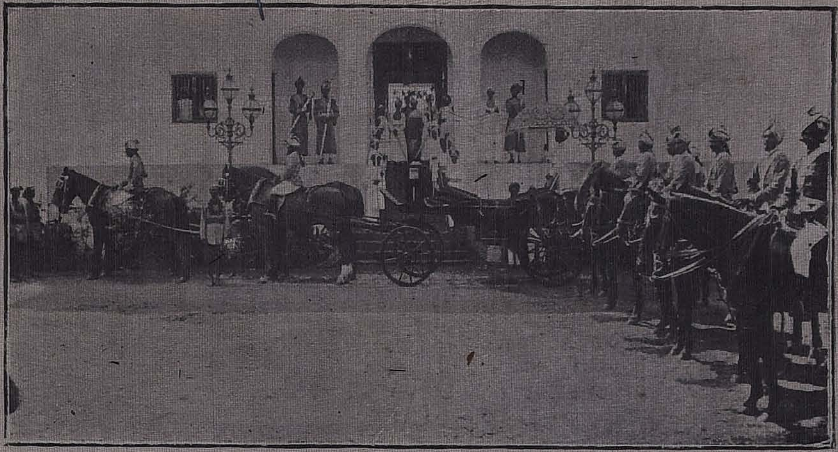
The enlightened Maharajah further opened the first Caste Hindu Girls' School in Vizagapatam, which is solely supported and maintained at the expense of the Shri Goday family, and is known as the Shri Pedda Janakayyamma Vari Hindu Girls' School.

Under the watchful care of his highly gifted and enlightened eldest daughter, Shri Seetaba Rani Sahiba of Wadhwan, who takes the keenest interest in the education of girls, the school is now the largest higher Elementary Girls' School in the town.

The cause of Medical relief for women was ever dear to the tender and sympathetic heart of the Maharajah, and the women and children of Vizagapatam owe him a deep debt of gratitude, for it was the Maharajah who first opened and maintained a Ward for them in 1892, in the Civil Hospital, under the supervision of a Lady Apothecary. In the year 1894 he purchased and presented the District Board with a building and grounds which have since been most generously endowed by his worthy daughter, the Rani Sahiba of Wadhwan. Shri Maharajah Gajapati Rao, having obtained the permission of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, to name the Hospital after her, it goes by the name of the "Victoria Hospital for Women and Children."

The first Poor House in Vizagapatam was opened by Shri Goday Surya Narayana Rao, the noble father of Shri Maharaja Gajapathi Rao in the year 1833, during the great famine which extended from Guntur to the Coromandel Coast, and was maintained by the Maharajah till the year 1853. Some years after, it was re-opened by the Municipality and when in 1896 it was about to be closed again, the generous hearted Maharajah came to the rescue and revived it at his own cost. As the site on which the building stood was required for the Medical School, the Maharajah Sahib selected another, which later on was purchased for Rs. 1,600, and the present Poor House was built thereon. This charity is kept up by his worthy daughter, Shri Seetaba Sahiba. In this Poor House arrangements are made to provide food for fifty poor daily. There is a Superintendent in charge, as well as cooks on the premises, and a dhoby and sweeper. For lepers and the sick and crippled, separate apartments are provided.

Another Public Institution for which the citizens of Vizagapatam are deeply grateful to the large-hearted Maharajah is "The Maharajah Sir G. N. Gajapathi Rao Hindu Reading Room." This was originally started by subscriptions by the wealthy citizens of the town, the Maharajah paying half



Residence of Maharajah Goday Narayana Gajapati Rao

Mahal Reception Room (Interior)

Mahal Reception Room (Verandah)

Dewan's Office Buildings

the estimated cost. It was the first of its kind in the District, and the Maharajah's main object was to promote the religious and moral welfare of Hindu Society. He secured the service of the late renowned Sanscrit Pandit, Maha Mahopadhyaya Sreeman Paravastu Rangacharlu Ayyavarlu Garu, and the desired object was achieved most satisfactorily for a number of years. When the original building fell into decay, in response to the wishes of the public, Maharajah Gajapathi Rao undertook to rebuild it, but it was possible only for his daughter, Shri Seetaba Sahiba to do this. The present substantial upper storied building was erected by her and presented in 1917.

As already stated Shri Maharaiah Gajapathi Rao also presented a statue of Her Imperial Majesty Queen Victoria, to the City of Madras in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee in the year 1887. The statue is located between the Senate House, and the Revenue Board Office, and bears the following inscription on a marble Tablet:—"Presented to the City of Madras, by Rajah Shri Goday Narayana Gajapathi Rao of the Shri Goday family of Vizagapatam."

It will be noticed from these facts that the Shri Goday family is renowned for its generous and beneficent measures of relief in every famine, calamity, or any other time of need. During the great famine of the year 1875, Maharajah Gajapathi Rao not only treated his peasantry with more than his wonted forbearance and mercy but also opened up Relief Houses in his Estates, where refugees were daily fed until the famine abated. He also built a ward known as the Goday Vari ward in the Monegar Choultry, Madras.

As a Member of the Senate of the Madras University, the Maharajah took the greatest interest in all educational matters. Besides his donations and monthly subscriptions to almost all educational and charitable Institutions of the District, he was the Donor of prizes to all schools every year, and also of the Carmichael Medal to the Vizagapatam Hindu College. He also founded a Sanscrit prize in the Madras University known as "The Goday Vari Sanscrit Gold Medal."

In the year 1868, the Maharajah was nominated by the Governor Lord Napier and Ettrick, to represent the Landed Classes, in the Madras Legislative Council, and held the nomination and appointment by subsequent re-appointment for sixteen years. From what he did in the Governor's Council might be singled out the consistent help which he gave to the important measures introduced in the year 1871, in accordance with the resolution of the then Viceroy, Lord Mayo, for the decentralisation of the "Self-Government Scheme of His Excellency Lord Ripon."

Many are the characteristic and keenly attractive public speeches made by the Maharajah in his younger days in the City of Madras, and it is impossible to do more than merely state, that they are to be found in the printed pamphlet compiled by his gifted eldest daughter, the Rani Sahiba of Wadhwan.

Accepting the invitation of Government, Maharajah Gajapati Rao was present at the Delhi Assemblage, in 1877, when Her Gracious Majesty, the late Queen Victoria, was proclaimed Empress of India, and received a Medal on that occasion.

In the year 1881, when the Maharajah Sahib revisited Calcutta, to renew the acquaintance and friendship of his old friends and comrades, the Title of "Rajah" was conferred on him by His Excellency, Lord Ripon, Viceroy of India; this later on, in the year 1898, was most deservedly exchanged for the dignified one of "Maharajah", a recognition cordially welcomed by the numerous admirers of so gracious and worthy a benefactor. Many other honours were bestowed on the Maharajah in recognition of his sterling merit. In 1892, the Order of Companion of the Indian Empire, was conferred upon him, while in the year 1899, as a personal distinction he was knighted by Lord Ampthill, the then Governor of Madras. Previous to this, in 1891, Pope Leo the XIII sent the Maharajah through his Delegate Apostolic, in the East Indies, a Mosaic picture, as a mark of his appreciation of the kindness shown by the Maharajah towards the Roman Catholics in Vizagapatam. In the same year he was invested by the Reverend Doctor J. R. Clerc, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Vizagapatam, with the "Order of St. Gregory the Great" one of the most ancient and illustrious Orders in Europe, which His Holiness, Pope Leo the XIII was pleased to send him with his "Bull" in Latin.

Into a life so full of good deeds and works of beneficence, there came two great sorrows, which over-shadowed the life of the tender-hearted Nobleman. The first was the early widowhood of his eldest daughter, the Rani Sahiba of Wadhwan, for whom he had the deepest affection, and the death of his youngest, the Rani of Kurupam. These afflictions were too much for him to bear and so greatly undermined his health, that in May 1903, the grand old Nobleman, quietly passed away, after a brief illness to the everlasting sorrow and regret of his numerous relatives, friends and townsfolk.

By the Will left by Shri Maharajah Gajapati Rao, his illustrious Maharani, Lady Chitti Janakayamma succeeded him and administered the Estates with much credit, and thus maintained the reputation of the Shri Goday family. On her death in July 1912, the Maharajah's eldest daughter, Shri Seetaba, the Rani Sahiba of Wadhwan, succeeded.

It is evident from the foregoing, that a number of beneficent measures which originated with the generous and philanthropic Maharajah were faithfully continued or developed by his esteemed daughter,

Shri Seetaba Sahiba. Not only is she imbued with a deep sense of filial responsibility, but like her noble father, she feels the deepest solicitude for the welfare of the people of the District and her heart like his is ever open in response to the many appeals made to it

Shri Seetaba Sahiba, eldest daughter of Shri Maharajah Sir G. N. Gajapathi Rao, K.C.I.E., was united in marriage to H. H. Maharana Shri Daji Raj Sahib, the then Ruling Chief of Wadwan, a scion of a Princely race known as the Jhala Rajputs of Kathiawar, in the Bombay Presidency. The wedding was celebrated at Madras, in 1884, with imposing ceremonies, in the presence of the elite of Indian and European society. The Maharajah was passionately devoted to his daughter, and only the fact that his heart was won by the charming and winsome manner of the young and noble suitor, whom he had met at the Delhi Assembly in 1877, and whose early career he had been watching with keen interest, accounts for his consenting to his daughter's marriage to the Chief of so distant a State as Wadhwan.

It was the dearest ambition of the Maharajah to give his daughter a sound and liberal education on English as well as Indian lines. The most talented European ladies were selected and sent out from England for the accomplishment of this purpose, while the Maharajah himself was responsible for the Indian part of Shri Seetaba Sahiba's training. With education and attainments such as these H. H. Seetaba Sahiba went to Wadhwan to be its Mother, and she soon won the hearts of all by the able and gracious manner in which she proved herself to be a capable and efficient helpmate to her noble Consort. It was in the second year of this happy married life, that the Rani Sahiba had the misfortune to lose her husband, the Maharana Daji Raj Sahib who contracted a severe chill, and in spite of the best medical aid Bombay could render, passed away. Shri Seetaba Sahiba's grief was inconsolable. The Maharajah Gajapathi Rao was heart-broken to bear the news, and immediately proceeded to Wadhwan, with the one intention of bringing his beloved daughter back to her childhood home. H. H. Shri Balsinbji, the late Chief's younger brother who succeeded to the State could not permit this. However, after a stay of six months he reluctantly consented to the proposal, but on condition that Rani Sahiba should spend six months each year in Wadhwan. This agreement was adhered to during the twenty-five years of her brother-in-law's administration.

Shri Seetaba Sahiba spent those early years of imposed retirement in the performance of works of usefulness and charity quietly preparing herself further for the great and important duties that unknown to her lay in store for her. She won several medals and certificates of merit in Drawing, Painting and Needle-work, and in 1892 when requested by the retired Governor of Madras, Sir M. S. Grant Duff, President of the newly formed Society for the "Preservation and Encouragement of Indian Art" to help in the activities of the Society—she undertook to work up with zeal to this end the ancient needle-craft, tie work, dyeing, and other Arts of the State of Wadhwan and won a certificate of Merit from that Society from London.

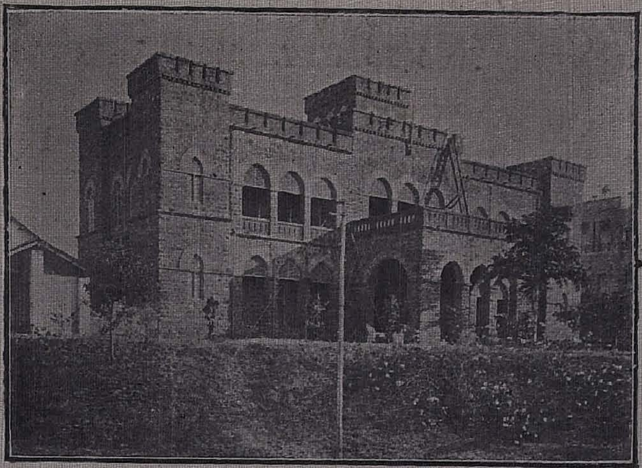
The second great calamity that befell H. H. Seetaba Sahiba was in 1903 when it pleased God to remove the saintly, noble and beloved Maharajah, her father, from this world. He was of ripe age, one who as a Scholar and Statesman had made his mark in India, and by his charities and large-hearted sympathies earned for himself a name and fame which to this day still live in many a heart. By the Will left by the Maharajah, H. H. Seetaba Sahiba succeeded to the Estates of Nakkapilli and Koroprolu in 1903, and managed them herself in accordance with the Maharajah's wishes.

H. R. H. The Prince of Wales visited India in November 1905. On this occasion the Rani Sahiba of Wadhwan was requested by the Bombay Government to be present at Bombay as Raj Mata of Wadhwan, but she declined to do this, as she had imposed upon herself a rule that she would live a life of strict retirement. When, however, Their Royal Highnesses were in Calcutta in December, the same year, at the repeated requests of class-mates and friends of the Maharajah, she consented to go to Calcutta accompanied by her brother-in-law H. H. Balsinbji. At this time, Lord Minto was Viceroy and Lady Minto very kindly received H. H. Seetaba Sahiba, at Government House, and ever after became one of her greatest friends.

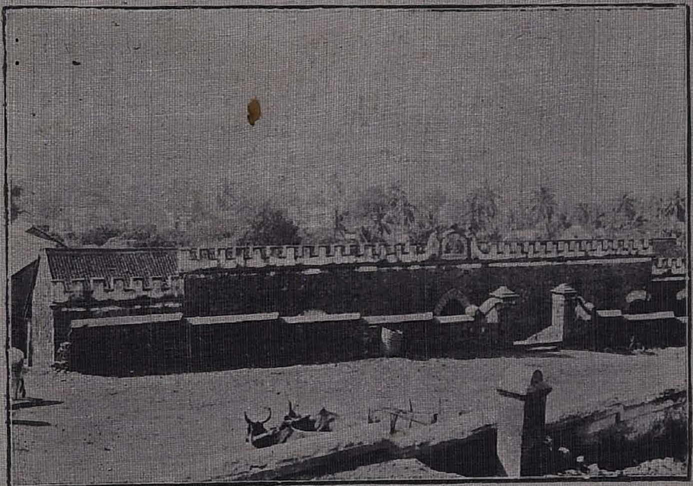
At the reception held at Belvedere on the 1st January, 1906, the Rani Sahiba had the honour of paying duty to H.R.H. The Princess of Wales who very graciously conversed with her for a long time and was very pleased with her high attainments and largeness of views.

In 1912, on the demise of her step-mother, the Maharani Lady Gajapati Rao, Government recognised Sri Seetaba Sahiba as the sole heiress to all her father's extensive Estates as well as those of the Maharani. The three months' interval usual in such circumstances was imposed, and at the end of this time Government having been satisfied of her capabilities by her able and efficient management of the Estates already under her charge prior to this—handed the whole Estates over to her unconditionally with the certificate of succession.

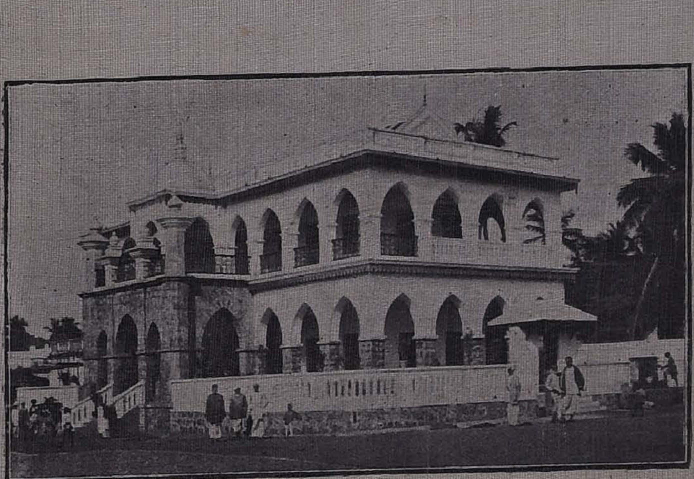
Now a wide and extensive field for the display of her latent administrative capabilities lay before H.H. Seetaba Sahiba, and she at once set herself to the responsible task of personally administering these Estates. The high and liberal education the



Diamond Jubilee Medical College



The Maharaja Gajapati Rao's Poor House



Maharaja Sri Gajapati Rao's Hindu Reading Room

Maternity and Child-Welfare Centre

"Raji Raj" Hindu Widows Dharma Sala

The Mansion—Madras

Maharajah had given his daughter, her own natural God-given talents, so well fitted her for these onerous duties, that high Officers of Government, including H. E. Lord Pentland, were able to testify to her good administration of her Estates. In 1919 Her Highness won the long-contested suit relating to the Mulagapaga Estate. Anakapilli and other smaller ones were also successfully won by her.

Never did mantle of a noble father fall so perfectly as that of the Maharajah's on his worthy daughter. In deeds of charity and philanthropy, in sympathy, in broadness of vision, H. H. Seetaba Sahiba proved to be a glowing replica of the revered Maharajah.

When the great European War broke out in 1914 few Indian Princesses contributed more liberally and loyally than did H. H. Seetaba Sahiba. That her contributions in money to various war purposes have been on a generous scale, will be seen from the following statement:—

	Rs.
Madras War Fund	30,500
Hospital Ship "Madras"	5,900
Belgian Relief Fund	1,000
Comforts for troops	4,550
Union Jack Fete and "Our Day" ...	2,175
Our Day contribution to Lady Chelmsford.	1,000
Do. do. to Bombay ...	1,300
Red Cross	1,448
Armistice and Peace Celebrations ...	1,617
Gramophone and records for troops ...	1,029
Silver Wedding Fund	700
Prince of Wales' Fund...	7,250
Total ...	58,469
War Loans	65,000
Grand Total ...	1,23,469

At the termination of the War, there were great rejoicings all over her Estates, and in the town of Vizagapatam, thousands of the poor were fed, while for the feeding of the Chennapuri Annadana Samajam poor in Madras she gave the sum of Rs. 1,000.

It was only a richly deserved and well befitting honour that His Imperial Majesty, the King Emperor, bestowed on Shri Rani Sahiba the Kaiser-i-Hind medal of the first class. This was presented to her by the Governor, Lord Pentland, in her Mahal, Vizagapatam, in 1917, in the presence of a select and distinguished assembly. It is not out of place to quote here these lines from His Excellency's speech on that occasion:—

"This coveted honour was specially instituted to afford a means of recognising voluntary efforts for the social, moral and intellectual advancement of the community.

"To all movements of this kind the Rani Sahiba has ever been ready to extend support, not only by contributing of her wealth, but by placing at their service that capacity and sound sense from which her estates have so much benefitted during her sympathetic and able management. In that sphere she has won the affection and esteem of her tenants and her numerous other activities and benefactions have equally endeared her to the general public. The women of this place owe her a special debt of gratitude. A Widows' Home, a Girls' School and the Gosha Hospital, to which she has contributed an endowment, testify to the practical interest she takes in their welfare. The Reading Room, which I have had the honour of opening to-day, is further evidence of the keen interest which she takes in the social and intellectual life of this place. It is unnecessary for me here to dwell on her private benefactions and generosity, which you here know well but on behalf of the subscribers in other parts of the Presidency I take this opportunity of expressing the gratitude of the Madras War Fund for the constant and loyal support which the Rani Sahiba has given to the efforts which are being made under its auspices to contribute to the comfort of our troops and to succour the sick and wounded among them. I hope that the Rani Sahiba may long be spared to enjoy this honour, and in others by her presence and example to foster that high ideal of social service to which her own life bears such ample witness."

Replying in suitable terms the Rani Sahiba placed in His Excellency's hands a cheque for Rs. 10,000 towards the War Fund and informed him that she would remit Rs. 20,000 arrears of revenue of her Estates to enable her tenantry to share in the joy of the happy occasion.

H. H. Seetaba Sahiba is a strong champion of the cause of women's education. The Girls' School referred to in H. E. Lord Pentland's speech was started by an ancestor of hers more than a century ago, and it is with the keenest interest and by her unceasing efforts that it has developed into its present condition. It provides education for more than 300 girls and for adult widows as well, for whom a special class is attached. Her interest in education is not limited to a single Province.

When in 1921, she visited Wadhwan, about the time of the birth of the heir apparent, Surendrasinhji, she was cordially greeted as Mother of the State and requested by Sheth Jagjivan, one of the leading citizens, to open the "Kanya Vidyala", which he had erected in memory of his deceased

mother. An extract from the speech made by the the donor on this occasion will indicate the well merited respect and admiration H. H. Seetaba Sahiba commands in the hearts of the general public of Wadhwan :—

"My fourth and crowning aspiration is fulfilled in my being instrumental in discharging the debt, we, the people of Wadhwan, owe you, Matu Shri Seetaba Sahiba, who, by your noble ideals and public charities, not only here but in far-off lands, have raised the name and fame of Wadhwan, high indeed. Further, Your Highness, with true motherly instinct, has personally obliged me by taking the trouble of successfully carrying out the true objects of female education—the real ground-work of a country's regeneration.

"I can only content myself by a simple sincere acknowledgment of that debt.

"In this connection, I feel most happy to briefly refer to some of the many social and public benefactions in Vizagapatam and elsewhere, of Matu Shri Seetaba Sahiba :—

EDUCATIONAL.

1. Girls' School, Vizagapatam.
2. Sanskrit School, Annakapalli.
3. Medicial School Building, Vizagapatam.
4. Maharaja Gajpati Rao Hindu Reading Room.

CHARITABLE.

1. The Daji Raj Hindu Widows' Dharmashala.
2. Poor House at Vizagapatam.
3. Gajpati Annadana Choultry.
4. Sadhu Sadavrat at Mahal, Vizagapatam.
5. Gosha Hospital at Vizagapatam.
6. Choultry at Benares.

"The foregoing public acts of Matu Shri Seetaba Sahiba bear an eloquent testimony to H. H. Seetaba Sahiba's high literary attainments, lofty social and public administrative capabilities, and place Matu Shri in the foremost rank of leaders like Ahalya Bai of historic fame and one naturally feels H. H's saintly presence a blessing, pure and simple."

In her reply the Rani Sahiba referred to the poems in Sanskrit and Telugu that her father's aunts and great aunts had composed, to the impetus her noble father gave to the education of women in the Vizagapatam District, and in the following words she urged upon the future pupils of the institution the claims of education:—

"It is my great desire that my country women should as far as possible receive the many blessings that education brings.

"By education, I do not mean just passing examinations and so forth and book learning to be forgotten as soon as school days are over; but that true education which forms character, takes us out of ourselves to higher ideas and fits us to be good wives and mothers to impart purity and sanctity to our homes and to set an example to our children so that not only we but also those who come after us may reap the benefit of our education; you have a living example of this before you in the person of the kind donor of this school whose filial devotion to his mother Ladkibai and gratitude to this State in which he was born and to which he owes his own education have prompted him to erect at great cost this splendid building for the benefit of the daughters of Wadhwan by which he has for ever laid upon my sisters of this Raj a life-long debt of gratitude. He could not have chosen a more appropriate time than the present to bring to realization his most cherished ambition when our dear Wadhwan is under the sympathetic rule of our beloved son Jorawarsinhji, who takes the keenest interest in education in general and in female education in particular. I have heard with interest and gratification of the generous way in which he has come forward to help this institution and, as you all know, he has also remitted fees in all schools in his State, thereby placing education within the reach of all who desire to take advantage of it.

"I hope you will bear in mind the aim and object of education is not just to give us a smattering of English or a knowledge of figures but the real end of true education is to make us humble, gentle and modest, and to give us a right view of life and its obligations. Our education which begins in school is not finished until life ends and the characters we form in school we carry with us into our homes and they make for good or otherwise our lives and the lives of those around us just according to how we have spent our school days. If you will keep this view of school life always before you, you cannot fail to realize the great responsibilities of it and if you live up to it your lives cannot but be blessings to yourselves and to all around you. Speaking from experience, I know how much we all owe to good books, companions of our leisure hours and our solitude, and I think one of the essentials of an institution like this is a good library to which the girls may always have free access and I have

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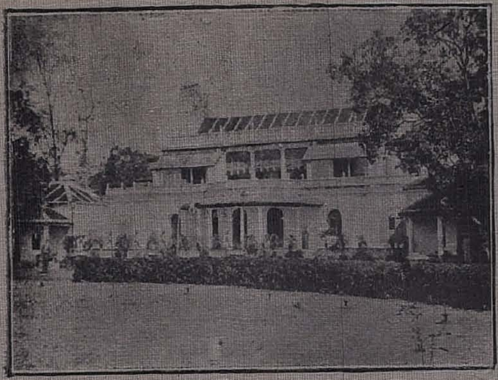
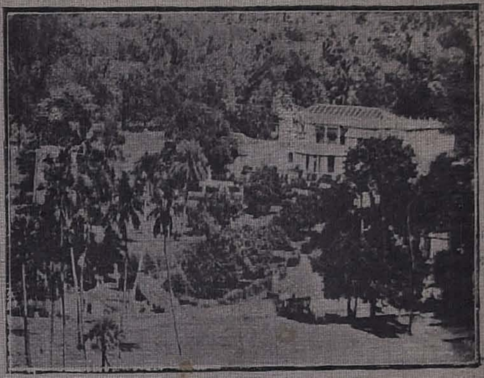
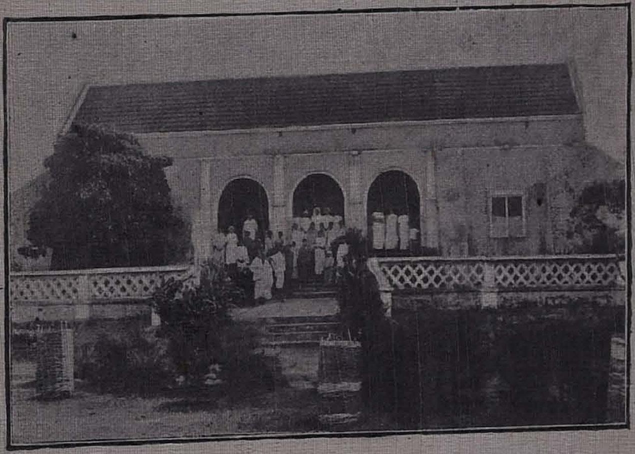


Sri Soorea Bagh (Front View)



Sri Soorea Bagh (Distant View)

Sri Soorea Bagh (Fountains)



The Victoria Hospital for Women and Children

much pleasure in announcing my gift of Rs. 750 to found one."

The Maharajah Gajapatirao Hindu Reading Room opened by H. E. Lord Pentland in 1917 to which he alluded in his speech had been erected by the Maharajah years before, but as the original structure collapsed, H. H. Seetaba Sahiba constructed a new storied building, and in commemoration of H. E. Lord Pentland's visit presented it to the public with a library costing about Rs. 1,000.

It will be seen from H. E. the Governor's speech and the list given by Sheth Jagjiwan that Shri Seetaba Sahiba's charities are numerous. It is not possible to dwell on each one at length and so with a word or two of explanation in regard to some we pass on.

The Daji Raj Hindu Widows' Dharmasala speaks for itself—an institution founded by her, whose sorrowing bereaved heart went out in tender pity and consideration for her sisters in similar distress. Here high caste widows find a sheltered home and are taught some kind of industrial work. There is a Matron Superintendent in charge and some of the work turned out has won certificates or medals of merit at industrial exhibitions. This institution as well as the "Broken Rice Choultry" were established by H. H. Seetaba Sahiba in memory of her late lamented husband.

The Victoria Hospital for Women and Children which was endowed by H. H. Seetaba Sahiba in 1922 was presented to the District Board of Vizagapatam by her benevolent father, the Maharajah Gajipatirao, in 1894. The District Board passed on the institution to Government who took it over for the express purpose of training the local Medical College students in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. But while it was yet in the hands of the District Board, prompted by her generous nature, Shri Seetaba Sahiba gave Rs. 5,000 for the contribution of a lying-in ward. Had the Hospital remained in the hands of Government the object with which it was started by her father, namely, *the treatment of women by women*, would have been frustrated. To avoid this and feeling it her sacred duty to carry out the wishes of her revered father, the Rani Sahiba with characteristic sympathy and generosity reclaimed it from Government by endowing it with the handsome sum of Rupees two lakhs. With such a Patroness as the Rani Sahiba, the institution is in a most flourishing condition and affords relief to numbers of suffering women and children who flock to it from Districts far and near.

Shri Seetaba Sahiba always took a keen and sympathetic interest in the Dufferin Fund, and subscribed liberally from time to time to its branches in Bombay as well as Madras. In the latter city she donated a sum of Rs. 1,000 for the endowment of a bed in the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital, while in Bengal, she subscribed Rs. 500 in 1906, when an appeal was made to her by Lady Andrew Frazer.

Nor were her sympathies limited to the sufferings of women only. Her father, the late Maharajah, had promised Government in 1900 a site, and the erection of a Medical School, and it was his loyal and faithful daughter Shri Seetaba Sahiba who fulfilled his promise, and had it completed at a cost of Rs. 60,000, and presented it to Government calling it the "Diamond Jubilee Medical College."

Needless to say the name of Shri Seetaba Sahiba has become a household word and so gracious and worthy a type of Indian womanhood has numberless admirers.

H. H. Seetaba Sahiba has spared no pains in providing medical aid for women and children in her city, and a few years ago, in 1922, she was the pioneer of the effort which resulted in the formation of the Maternity and Child Welfare Association, Vizagapatam. As its Patroness she has been indefatigable in her zeal and ever ready to answer the demands made on her purse for its support. Her Highness' regular and invaluable assistance has been the mainspring of its growth and development, and the incentive to other bodies in this and neighbouring Districts to open up similar work.

No demand made on her kind and benevolent heart seems to be made in vain. Shri Seetaba Sahiba has consented to be Patroness in this District, of the "Prisoners' Aid Society" on condition, however, that it entails no active service. Purdah lady as she is, she lent her name to the movement to encourage its development, heading the list with a donation of Rs. 1,000.

When in 1920, H. E. Lady Willingdon, wife of the then Governor of Madras, made an appeal for funds for the improvement and expansion of the Ladies' Recreation Club, Madras, Shri Seetaba Sahiba, whose interest in every scheme for the advancement of women is most keen, readily responded with a generous donation of Rs. 1,000.

The Annadana Brahmin Choultry at Shri Soorea Bagh and water pipe laid on in the Hindu cremation ground of Vizagapatam by her, both in memory of her father, will serve to remind successive citizens of her earnest solicitude for their comfort.

Shri Seetaba Sahiba has been a saintly ruler and is rightly held in great veneration by the citizens of Bombay and Vizagapatam. She has ever faced troubles and trials bravely like the renowned Ahalya Bai, and has made of them a stepping stone from which she comes to the aid of suffering toiling humanity. In short as expected from her early liberal training in the best that East and West could give, Rani Sahiba's regime has been characterised throughout by a spirit of advancement and reform and her enlightened personality constitutes one of the most cherished assets of modern Indian womanhood.

ETTAYAPURAM SAMASTANAM

The Zamindari Samastanam of Ettayapuram is one of the oldest Palayams in Southern India and lies partly in the District of Tinnevelly and partly in the Districts of Madura and Ramnad. The Samastanam covers an approximate area of about 1000 square miles and consists at present of Ettayapuram proper, Nagalapuram, part of Elazirampannai, Golvarpatty, Sundarapachayapuram, Kulasegerapuram and the major portion of the Gandamanayakanur Zamindary. The annual Peishkist, inclusive of cess and other miscellaneous taxes, paid to the British Government amounts to Rupees two lakhs. The total land revenue alone exceeds six lakhs of rupees.

There are game preserves in the hills and forests of the Zamindari, the important of them being the Gurumalai Reserve, 3 miles east of Kumarapuram railway station on the S. I. R. line. The game preserved chiefly consists of deer, antelope, hare and wild boar.

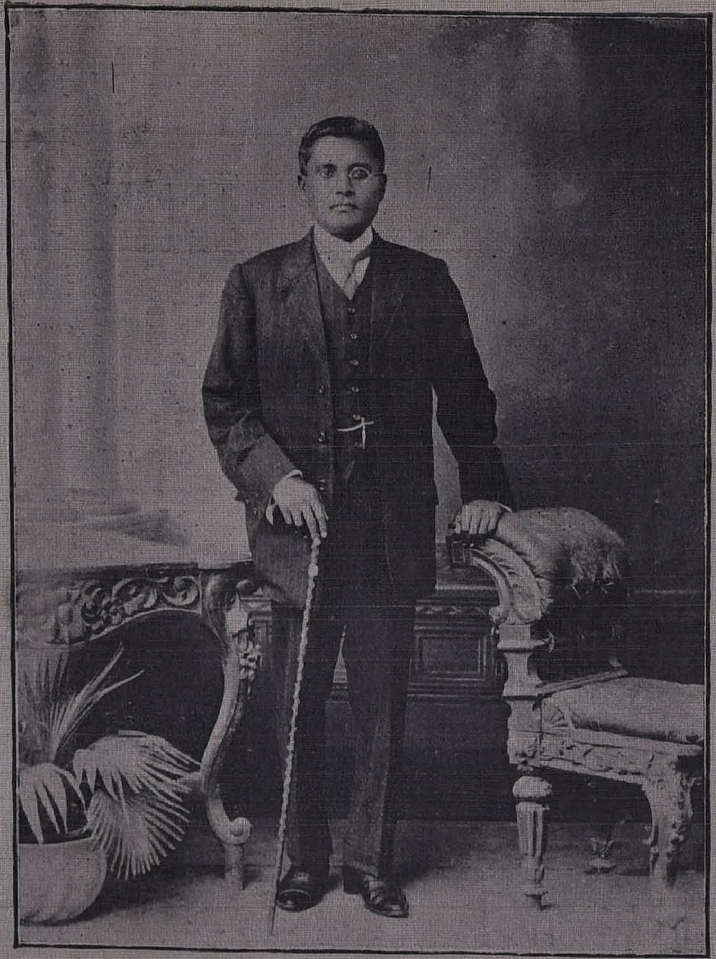
The Sea-board is about 20 miles and there are salt pans at Arasady, a village in the Samastanam, and five of the islands in the Gulf of Mannar also belong to the Samastanam.

THE ANCESTRY OF THE FAMILY.

The materials at present available to fix the early history, origin and progress of these warrior clans are scanty and meagre, and so to learn something of their origin one is to go back to the days of the Emperor Toglag of the Toglag dynasty that ruled in Delhi. Mahamad-Bin-Toglag, the Emperor, sent his second nephew Bahabuddin to Deccan to be his Viceroy there. Later Bahabuddin rebelled against the Emperor and declared himself to be an independant ruler which aroused the fury of the Emperor who at once sent an army against him which defeated and crushed the power of Bahabuddin who fled and took refuge under the Raja of Kambila in the Carnatic. In those days the fort of Kambila was a strongly fortified one and was under the Emperor of Vizianagar and was situated on the banks of the Tungabhadra. The Emperor chased his rebel to his refuge, where he found it hard to contend as the fort was formidable, and so he returned unsuccessful. The heroism exhibited by the inmates of the fort earned for them the name of '*acre perennius*' and they were designated as Kambilavarus, literally meaning heroes of Kambila. In subsequent years the descendants of the noble warrior heroes followed the noble example of their forefathers and constantly rendered invaluable military services to Suzerin, the Emperor of Vizianagar, and settled in the various parts of the Empire of Vizianagar, and several of the Palayagar families are still retaining with them the traditional name of their forefathers, Kambilavarus. The House of Ettayapuram belongs to one such descendant of the warrior clan, and heads first in the list of Kambilavaru Samasthanams in Southern India from the foundation of the Telugu zamindars' Samastanams.

After a period Jambukesava Raya was ruling in Vizianagar and it was peculiar to the Court of Vizianagar in his days to keep the southern gate of the imperial fort in charge of one Soman and his eight brothers, and, if any feudatory chief desired to pay his respects to the Emperor, he had to undergo the ordeal of passing underneath the expanded legs of the Soman, as a token of submission or must draw swords before he could enter the audience hall. This Soman was of prodigious strength and had a golden anklet worn as a proof of his "withers unwrung". One Nallama Naicker, the ancestor and founder of the Ettappa Naick family, had to pay his respects to the Emperor, and as he himself was an expert gladiator, acceded to the latter alternative, and information was sent to the Emperor. By the royal mandate, they both drew swords and displayed all their feats in the art, but in a few moments' time, to the consternation of the lookers on, the head of the unfortunate Soman was seen rolling in the dust of the arena. Thereupon his eight surviving brothers, prostrating themselves at the feet of the victorious Nallama, craved for clemency and protection which was accordingly granted to them. The Emperor was much pleased and complimented him on his prowess and ordered a golden head of the Soman made and worn on his left leg as a trophy, and the same is still handed down to posterity, and the trophy is at all installations brought out and tied to the left leg of the "Ettapparayas." Since he had given perfect safety to the eight brothers of the succumbed Soman, the Emperor conferred on him the title of "Ettappan"—(Ettu—eight, Appan—merciful father) which means the merciful father of the eight. Since that time the name "Ettappa Rajas" is borne by all legitimate successors to the ancient Ghadi of Ettayapuram. Afterwards he was granted the privilege of keeping two state fans and with them was taken round the streets of Vizianagar in procession as a mark of respect and was commissioned with God speed to Chandragiri where he was ordered to proceed forthwith to put an end to the disturbances caused by Mohammedans. Soon the rebels were completely vanquished and peace and order was restored. Chandragiri was placed in the hands of Nallama Naick who exercised quasi-sovereignty and so to this day Ettappa Rajas among several of their titles bear the title of 'Chandragiri Adhipan' which means the lord of Chandragiri.

The fourteenth in descent, Kumara Muthu Ettappa, left Chandragiri to quell down the insurrections caused by the Mohammedans and Maravas in the



C. V. Thangasawmi Pandiyan
The Rajah of Ettayapuram (Page 8)

H. H. Sri Rama Varma
Elaya Rajah of Cochin (Page 11)

countries of Madura and Tinnevelly. The subsequent victory is attested testimony to with ample evidence by a stone pillar, near the Bala Samudra tank in the Kallar territory. The Pandian king elated with the overthrow of the insurrections conferred on the victorious Ettappa a title of honor, "Sundra Pandiya Ettappa," with several other rewards. He then went south to exterminate a gang of Marava marauders in the Ellasi country, the ancient Capital of Ettayapuram, where he settled and held sway. It was during the twentieth in descent the present town of Ettayapuram was formed and the old capital of Ellasi was deserted. The twenty-fourth descendant patronised the Roman Catholic Fathers and did much to promote their interest. Under the distinguished patronage and protection of the Raja, the famous European Tamil scholar Rev. Constantius Beschi and Rev. John de Britto constructed a chapel and a Mission House at Kamayanayakanapatty and fixed their residence and settled down. During the twenty-seventh ruler there flourished in the Samastanam two famous poets namely Kadikai Muthu Pulawar and the Mohammedan poet Omar. After the twenty-seventh ruler there passed several successors whose regime is marked with quiet and peace, without events.

The Honourable East India Company and the Ettayapuram Samastanam.

After several years of peaceful rule comes the regime of the thirty-first in descent, whose days are marked with events worth recording. In his days there was a fortified town called Panchalankurichi ruled by one Katabomu. He was always in intrigue with the French and Tippu Sultan, and with their aid he defied the power and suzerainty of the Right Honourable British East India Company and rose in arms against it. Several other petty palayagars also joined him. Consequently war was declared by the East India Company against the rebellious palayagars, and the Raja of Ettayapuram joined the company and helped them a great deal. Katabomu was finally captured and hanged along with his accomplices. In recognition of his meritorious services the Honourable Company conferred on the Raja of Ettayapuram the permanent enjoyment of six Vanithams—divisions of the forfeited Panchalankurichi. Subsequently after this His Excellency the Governor in Council issued a proclamation condemning the action of Katabomu and his allies and conferring the said Vanithams on the Raja of Ettayapuram. In the course of the proclamation it is stated that Katabomu and his adherents were all hanged, no trace of them being left, and further that all his followers had lost for ever, without any right of enjoyment, the lands of their palayapet. It is further stated that whereas the Palayagar of Ettayapuram, Ettappa Raja, respected the authority of the Company and faithfully and obediently submitted to it, and aided the Company, the Company has bestowed upon him, in return for his services, the Vanithams aforesaid to be permanently enjoyed by him and his sons lineally and rightfully descended from him. In addition it is stated that they shall receive the aid and support of the Company. The proclamation was issued at Tinnevelly by the then Collector of Tinnevelly, the late Lushington, by order of the Governor in Council on the 14th September, 1801. One British war drum and two English flags were presented to Ettayapuram State which are still preserved in the palace as a mark of favour extended to them by the Company.

Peace, Plenty and Prosperity.

With the close of the thirty-first descendant who was known as the "Warrior Raja" on account of his valour and prowess, ended the days of fight and frenzy. With the ascent to the Ghadi of his son the thirty-second descendant of the family, there dawned a long line of successions, whose days were noted for Peace, Plenty and Prosperity. The thirty-second descendant of the family was an ardent worshipper of God Sri Subramanya, and spent several thousands in the worship of God. He constructed a big tank in the north of Ettayapuram facing it with well-cut stones. The cost of spanning bridges over two big rivers of the Chitra Nadi and the Uppar was defrayed by him from his exchequer. By this time the late Mr. Lushington that was the Collector at Tinnevelly had become the Governor of Madras, and paid the Raja a visit; and thus the ruler had the unique honour of being visited in his Capital by a Governor even in those early days. Learned men in all branches of Science flocked to his court and of the several bards the name of Muthuswami Deikshit, one of the two great founders of the South Indian Music is worth mentioning. His son who succeeded him afterwards, also walked in the footsteps of his father and did much in the shape of improvements in all banches of administration. There was a legion of learned men in his Court and the *cornucopia* of the royal hand was showered on them all. This reign may approximately be said to form the Augustan Age in the annals of the Samastanam. He was himself a profound scholar in Sanskrit and his compositions are masterpieces in the language. Leaving no issues, he was succeeded by his next brother who was a reputed Macenas and one of the best class of musicians that ever courted the Muse in South India. He was of a philosophical turn of mind and a pessimist to boot. The Agra model domes with the golden cupolas adorning at their summits were all constructed by him and the construction of such buildings rendered additional beauty to the palatial sites. Being issueless, his next brother succeeded him. At the very commencement of his reign he had the honour of interviewing with Lord Napier, the then Governor of Madras, at Satur and Tinnevelly. After him his

eldest son succeeded to the throne. He effected many improvements in the State. He constructed buildings on modern sanitary principles. When the communication of the S. I. R. line was extended to Tuticorin, this Raja had the golden luck of travelling in the same compartment with H. R. H. the then Prince of Wales, now the late Emperor Edward VII, as far as Koilpatti, a station in the S. I. R. line, skirting the limits of the Samastanam. He was also one of the few ancient aristocrats that were invited to attend the Imperial Assemblage in Delhi in 1877. He contributed a large sum on charitable purposes during the great South Indian Dhatu year famine. He was honoured by the Government with certificates and also with medals by H. R. H. the then Prince of Wales. In a civil suit contest, this Raja established the right of impartibility of his Samastanam on the score of its being a very ancient one. He died on the last day of April in 1890. After him his only son, the late Raja succeeded to the Ghadi. The late Raja was one of the most cultured and beloved of the rulers. He travelled all over India and Ceylon and received his education from the Newington College under Rev. Mr. Potts and Messrs. Morrison and Payne. He also effected several reforms. On the very day of his attaining majority he raised the standard of a Lower Secondary school to that of a free High school and further established a free girls' school for the first time within the limits of his extensive Samastanam. He introduced the telegraphic system in Ettayapuram, a long felt want among the mercantile community of the place. He opened an experimental model farm to improve the condition of his ryots. His munificence knew no bounds. He contributed amply to the alleviation of the famine-affected poor, and spent several thousands of rupees on charitable purposes. Atirudram and the Agricultural Exhibitions which he held swallowed about lacs of rupees and the contribution which he donated for war at one time alone was in a lump sum of half a lac of rupees, besides thousands which he was occasionally contributing for the same. He invited Lord Ampthill for hunting excursions in the Gurumalai hills. Under his order and patronage was published a *magnum opus*, a work named "Sangitha Sampradaya Pradarsini," and he preserved the system of Deikshit school of music from oblivion. After a brilliant reign of sixteen years he passed away from this world and his death is still universally bemoaned by all classes of people in those parts. The ballads sung by beggars all along the railway stations from Madras to Trivandrum extolling his virtues tentatively go to prove that he was not only popular in his lands but also in the far off lands lying between the Cooum and the virgin brow of Comorin. As the Raja died childless, the burden of administration fell on the shoulders of his paternal uncle, an able and even-tempered gentleman, with years of experience behind him.

He has two sons of whom the elder is the heir-apparent and the second son is a diploma holder in the fine arts and richly possesses all the qualities becoming his noble birth. The elder, H. H. Thanga Maharaja is up to date in every branch of learning and possesses a strong retentive memory and can argue with ability on any subject such as Logic, Medicine, Mathematics, etc. He is thoroughly familiar with all vital points of Law.

Unscathed by the mischievous tendencies of modern sceptical education he sedulously cultivates a true and faithful devotion to the beliefs and usages of his family, giving specific hours to the performance of the customary rites, and adhering to the wholesome observances enjoined on persons of his rank for the preservation of *mens sana in corpore sano*. In matters of domestic and internal economy his family has for several generations maintained a world-wide reputation for strict regard to whatever is indispensable in accordance with the golden rule, "avoid everything which you can do clearly without" never outstepping the lines of demarcation mapped for him from time immemorial, and never going beyond the limits imposed upon him. He is further exceedingly genial, affable, generous, and charitable. At his personal expense a lady was recently sent to England to make herself equipped with almost all English degrees in Medicine, and the High School at Ettayapuram which is under his direct management has been producing brilliant results since half a decade.

He has a son and a daughter aged 10 and 8 years respectively. The son is a prodigy in music and it will be no exaggeration to describe him as the incarnation of St. Cecilia. His brother also has a son aged about five years.

From the foregoing account one can see that Ettayapuram forms one of the important factors that assisted in the growth of successive Empires at different times since the time of Mahamad-Bin-Tohglag, and the honoured House richly deserves any distinction that the British Government might be pleased to confer on them.

HIS HIGHNESS THE ELAYA RAJAH OF COCHIN.

His Highness Rama Varma, the Elaya Raja, the Heir-Apparent of Cochin was born on the 30th December, 1861. His father was Brahmasri Muriyamagalath Nethran Nambudiripad, a member of one of the premier Nambudiri families in Malabar, and he is the eldest son of the late lamented Senior Rani who passed away in 1902. He had a brother and six sisters of whom only five sisters now survive. From his early childhood he had earned a name for his winning and unassuming manners and his simplicity of character. He was exceptionally fortunate in the choice of his teachers. It was Mr. T Ragahavan Nambiar who initiated him into the mysteries of *the three Rs*. He learnt Sanskrit under the well-known Pundit Rengappa Acharyar who was held in great esteem in his days for his vast erudition and scholarly attainments. He was taught English by Mr. Robert White, one of the veteran Educationists of the time, assisted by Mr. Narayana Iyer, and Mathematics by Mr. Sankara Narayana Chettiar. His Highness Sir Rama Varma Athan Thirunal, G.C.S.I., the present reigning Maharajah and himself were educated together. Srimathi Elamana Kunchi Amma of Tripunittura had the good fortune to become his Consort, and in her, His Highness has always found a dutiful, affectionate, and God-fearing wife. She has three sons one of whom is Mr. E. Krishna Menon, who is himself the Private Secretary to His Highness the Elaya Raja, and the Manager of his Estates. She has also a daughter Srimathi E. Kalliani Kutty Amma whom the 16th Prince of Cochin has married.

Though His Highness has not had the occasion to participate directly in the affairs pertaining to the administration of the State, he has always evinced the keenest interest in all public questions, and has kept himself posted up with the events not only affecting the welfare and happiness of the people of the State, but also of events taking place all over India and outside, from time to time. It was only three years ago that his Shastiabdapoorthi was celebrated amidst great rejoicings by the people throughout the State; and the demonstrations showed in what great esteem he is held by them.

He has travelled all over India, visiting almost all places of religious and historic interest. His pilgrimage to Benares and to the holy shrines of Southern India is specially noteworthy. He is a lover of books and is a regular reader of newspapers. His recreations are riding and boating, and he often takes delight in long walks as a mode of exercise. He is very regular in his habits. He is used to none of the luxuries of Royalty, and his motto is plain living and high thinking. He is a teetotaler and has rigorously abstained from the use of tea, coffee, or tobacco in any form.

Always of a religious turn of mind, yet sociable in his ways, he has been a friend, philosopher and guide to all those who have had the occasion to come in close contact with him. Many are his princely benefactions to public charities and philanthropic institutions.

PARVATIPUR FAMILY.

This family belongs to the ancient Rathore House of Marwar and one of its junior branches, tradition says, had a title of Todramal during the reign of Mogul Emperors. About the year 1740 Sri Todramal Dhanunjoy Routra (Rathore) started on a pilgrimage to Puri. At this time one of the elephants of the Maharajah of Orissa (Puri) was in rut and went on killing men and animals in large numbers, but none had the courage to approach it. One day Sri Dhanunjoy was passing at a little distance from the ferocious animal which charged him suddenly. He boldly attacked the beast with his lance and sword, sprang on its back with lightning speed and completely subdued the animal to the wonder of all present.

Thereupon the Maharajah of Orissa, being very much pleased with his bravery, bestowed on him the title of "Beeroboro" (Veeravara in Telugu) and induced him to stay at his court with suitable provision befitting his rank and position. Accordingly he stayed there until his death in 1755. His son Sri Jagannath, who was named so, as he was born by the grace of Lord Jagannath at Puri about the year 1740, could not get the same privileges in court as his father on account of jealousy the other courtiers naturally bore towards his father. So this talented young prodigy who had a large fortune from his ancestors, removed himself to Jeypore together with his followers about the year 1760. His lineage, person and bravery soon placed him at the head of the Jeypore Army with the title of "Thot Raja" (chief of the army). He defeated the French at Malkanagiri and drove them as far back as the Godavari. Soon after he led his forces against the Maharattas and defeated them at Ummerkot. His valuable assistance to the king of Bastar in 1777 secured the Paragana of Kotpad for Jeypore. In the meantime he was appointed Dewan (Patro) of Jeypore and shortly afterwards he was made the Chief Dewan (Mahapatro), which enviable position he held for more than half a century. (The descendants of this family use the titles of Veeravara, Todramal and Thot Raja). During this period he very tactfully managed to settle several other grave disputes amicably, avoiding horrible blood sheds which were quite common at the time. He improved the state to a considerable extent and most faithfully served his master Sri Ramachandra Deo to the end of his days. His valuable services were suitably rewarded by his masters with the hereditary title of Thot Raja and several other valuable presents from time to time. The most important of these and worthy of note were a gold chain weighing 101 tolas to be worn on the left leg at the time of Durbar as a special mark of honour, a diamond necklace of considerable value and a fine sword bedecked with precious stones and with a gold scabbard.

This famous Rajaputra immortalised his name by digging a very big tank known as Jagnnath Sagar at Jeypore under his master's wishes and had also planted several big gardens some of which still exist.

The famous Sri Jagannadha Maha Patro who was familiarly known so throughout the District had in his possession large sums of money acquired from his ancestors and with which he relieved several poor and also men of status in distress. Thus he endeared himself to his people with whom he was always very popular and was highly revered throughout the District. By his exceptional talents he was able to quell the serious disturbances at Padmanabham in 1794 and thereby rendered inestimable service to the Rt. Hon. East India Company, who out of gratitude, bestowed the Belgaum Zamindary on his eldest son Sri Veeravara Todramal Somasundara Narayana Thot Raja Bahadur in the year 1796 on a life interest. The Zamindar shortly afterwards came to Belgaum and there erected a fort for himself.

In 1804 Milkint Istimirar Sannad was granted by Lord Hobbart making over the Estate permanently to the Zamindar. Thereupon the Zamindar commenced to erect a new fort within which were to be found everything requisite to a fort, such as buttresses, temples, various other buildings for different purposes, with a deep ditch all round for protection against enemies. It was just before his death he shifted himself from his old fort at Belgaum to the new one. He also caused several houses to be built all round his fort and named the place Parvatipur. The population of the new town increased so rapidly year after year, that it became a very densely populated place within a short period. The Zamindar died in 1814 leaving behind his two sons Sri Dhanunjaya and Sri Viswambhara. The former succeeded his father to the Estate.

There was a noteworthy incident connected with the mother of this Zamindar. Sri Somasundara Narayana married two daughters of the famous Srikar Bhanj of Ghumsur family. At the time of the Zamindar's ~~death both~~ his wives wanted to perform Sahagamanam. But the younger of the two having been in a delicate state of health, this grave matter was referred to the Pandits, who decided, on the strength of Sastras, that she should not perform Sati. So, the elder wife, according to the rites prescribed in Sastras performed Sahagamanam with her husband, just in front of the fort. The sanctity of the place is still preserved up to the present time by the members of the family.

Sri Dhanunjaya took charge of the Zamindary in 1814 and managed it till 1849. He completed some of the works of the fort which were left unfinished by his father. However his rule was not quite satisfac-

Late Srí Rajah V. T. Suryanarayana
Thot Rajah Bahadur Varu of Parvatipur
(Page 12)

Late Sri Rajah V. T. Sundaranaraya
Thot Rajah Bahadur of Belgaum
(Page 14)

Sri Rajah V. T. Chendrasekhara
Thot Rajah Bahadur Varu,
The Zemindar of Parvatipur

The Son of the Present Zamindar of
Parvatipur

tory. Just before his death serious misunderstandings took place between him and his brother, Sri Viswambhara. The ill-feelings between the brothers went up to such a degree that Sri Dhanunjaya being himself issueless, wanted to adopt a boy of a totally different family and caste in order to exclude his brother from succeeding him. But his plans were quite unsuccessful. So immediately after the Zamindar's death Mr. Smollet, the then Collector of Vizagapatam, sent a report to the Commissioner of Northern Circars strongly recommending the late Zamindar's brother as the proper heir and successor to the Estate. The recommendation was taken into favourable consideration and Sri Viswambhara was registered as the Zamindar in 1850. He managed the Estate carefully. But it was in an encumbered state owing to the misrule of his brother. He thought it wise to mortgage it for a certain period instead of alienating a portion of the same. Accordingly he mortgaged it for Rs. 75,000 to the Zamindar of Merangi in 1856 for a term of 12 years and was receiving some fixed amount per year from the Merangi Zamindar for the maintenance of his family. This Zamindar had two sons, Sri Narayana Ramachendra and Sri Janardhana. By the time Sri Viswambhara died, the Zamindari was in the possession of the Merangi Zamindar. But Sri Narayana Ramachendra's great personality and amiable disposition induced the Merangi Zamindar to hand over the Belgaum Zamindari to its legal heir even 3 or 4 years before the time of release. However, Sri Narayana Ramachendra paid the balance of the debt to the last pie shortly afterwards. He improved the Estate to a considerable extent. He was very fond of horticulture and planted a big garden consisting of several varieties of mango and other fruit trees in a valley near Nandapuram and named it Madhuban. He also built the Gundichamantapam the fine wood work of which was done by the Orissa carpenters. He was very pious and used to spend most of the time in the worship of Mother Durga, the family deity. He was very affectionate to his brother Sri Janardhana to whom he made a gift of two villages called Addapuseela and Vuddavolu fetching an income of Rs. 5,000 with absolute rights. Unfortunately this Zamindar had no male issue. But his brother had three sons namely, Sri Sivanarayana, Sri Chendrasekhar and Sri Bhavanarayana, of whom the eldest was given in adoption to his brother. The Zamindar died in 1865 and by that time the Estate was fetching about Rs. 30,000.

His adopted son, Sri Sivanarayana to whom the Estate owes very much for the improvement effected in all possible ways, succeeded him. He managed the Estate very cleverly and tactfully. He repaired all the tanks substantially to the great satisfaction of his tenants, and this made them increase the rents ungrudgingly. He used his wisdom and influence to the fullest extent in settling the disputes of his people amicably with whom he was always very popular and was looked upon as their sole leader.

He was no less ardent in improving the gardens laid out by his father and built a palatial building for himself. He effected several improvements to the Estate thereby increasing its revenue to about Rs. 50,000. During this Zamindar's time the Maharajah of Jeypore paid a visit and stayed in his fort for three days. The Zamindar died in 1882 leaving two sons, Sri Dhanunjaya and Sri Viswambhara. The latter was given in adoption to Bhaji family during the Zamindar's lifetime.

So, Sri Dhanunjaya succeeded to the Estate and was registered as Zamindar in 1882. This Zamindar proved quite contrary to his father in statesmanship. The only hobbies in his life were hunting and photography. He practically left the Estate in the hands of his Dewan and passed his days merrily in the jungles where he used to encamp with a long retinue for months and months together. He was an excellent sportsman and bagged so many wild beasts to the great relief of the people. Though all his ancestors and successors were good sportsmen he went a step further and rightly deserved the palm above all.

Being a good photographer he furnished his fort very tastefully with up to date furniture then available in market and had in his gunnery a large number of firearms of all descriptions. This Zamindar had no issue and died without adopting any boy in 1889. However his courtiers who were very mischievous people, forged a will authorising the Rani to adopt a boy of her own choice. Immediately after, a boy from the house of Chikati was adopted by the Rani and the Court of Wards took charge of the Estate on behalf of the boy who was a minor then. Thereupon the late Zamindar's first cousins, Sri Suryanarayana and Sri Sundaranarayana who were the next reversioners sued to the Estate. The disposal of the suit took nearly a decade and was ultimately decided in favour of the plaintiffs in all the courts. Then the Estate was partitioned as Parvatipur and Belgaum Hundas between these two brothers in 1898. The former came to the share of Sri Suryanarayana and the latter to Sri Sundaranarayana. These two Zamindars had to spend a very large amount for the above suit and were obliged to borrow the money from Sri Vikrama Deo, Maharajah of Jeypore. Unfortunately Sri Suryanarayana died in December 1900 and his brother Sri Sundaranarayana followed him in February 1901. The former left a son seven years old named Sri Chendrasekhara who is the present Zamindar of Parvatipur and the latter left two sons, Sri Janardhan and Sri Bhavanarayana, 13 and 11 years old respectively, who are the present joint Zamindars of Belgaum.

So, both the Estates were taken up by the Court of Wards who disposed off nearly half the portion of each Estate and cleared the debts.

After the Estate was taken under the Court of Wards, the Ward was educated at the Maharajah's College, Vizianagaram. He passed the S.S.L.C. Examination and before he could complete the Intermediate course he was called on to take up the management of the Estate on 6th June, 1915. The Zamindar is capable of managing the Estate efficiently. He is accessible to every ryot, however humble he is, and looks after the welfare of the ryots generally and of the hill people in particular. His views are liberal and his relations with his ryots are therefore cordial. He is a good "Shikari" having killed a good number of wild animals including man-eaters in and about his Estate forests. He has a son, Durga Prasad Thot Raja Bahadur. The boy is studying in the local High School.

THE BELGAUM FAMILY.

The present Zamindars of Belgaum and Parvatipur are members of the same family and belong to the ancient and illustrious Rathore House of Marwar. It has been mentioned in the history of Parvatipur that Sri Dhanunjaya died in 1899 leaving no issue behind him. The Rani managed to adopt a minor boy from the house of Chikati with the help of a forged will and the Court of Wards took charge of the Zamindari. As is usual in most of the cases of adoption litigation cropped up impugning the factum and validity of adoption between the Rani and the reversioners of the estate, the late Zamindar's first cousins, Sri Suryanarayana and Sri Sundaranarayana. They succeeded in the litigation in all the courts and recovered their ancestral property. The estate was divided into halves as Belgaum and Parvatipur Hundas between them in 1898. The latter fell to the share of Sri Suryanarayana and the former to Sri Sundaranarayana.

The fraternal relationship between the brothers was extremely cordial and exemplary and they had to borrow enormous sums of money from Sri Vikrama Deo, the Maharajah of Jeypore to conduct the litigation aforesaid to recover the estate. The elder brother, Sri Suryanarayana died in 1900 leaving behind him a son 7 years old named Sri Chendrasekhar who is the present Zamindar of Parvatipur. The younger brother, Sri Sundaranarayana also passed away in 1901 leaving two sons, Sri Janardhan and Sri Bhavanarayana 13 and 11 years respectively, the present joint occupants of Belgaum Ghadi.

In the latter part of 1903, the present Zamindars of Belgaum were sent to Parlakimidi to prosecute their studies at the express desire of their beloved mother. They studied up to Matriculation and during their scholastic career they were highly spoken of by all the teachers for their exemplary conduct and studious habits which credit was solely due to the mother's proper training. They took part in all the sports of the college such as cricket, hockey, badminton and tennis.

In December, 1907 the marriage of the Senior Zamindar, Sri Janardhan, took place at Chikati with the cousin sister of the Chikati Raja. Soon after their mother's demise in 1908 both the brothers had to return to Parvatipuram to undergo revenue training. The Senior Zamindar attained majority on 9th March 1909 and the Belgaum Estate was handed over to him by Mr. P. C. Dutt, the then Assistant Collector of Parvatipuram. The senior Zamindar performed the marriage of his brother in April 1910 with the eldest daughter of the Zamindar of Kandrapura, Cuttack District. The Zamindars are jointly managing their estate tactfully according to their budget. They are very punctual in remitting the Government dues on or before the due dates. They avoid as far as practicable all law courts, settling the disputes amicably. They are good shikaris and have bagged several wild beasts. In 1911 the Zamindars laid out a big garden named Madhuban at the foot of the hillock of Addapusila village, consisting of about 1000 mango grafts of choicest varieties in India and numerous other fruit trees in memory of their departed parents, and also two other gardens in different parts had been subsequently planted by them.

They are dutiful sons of their beloved parents for whom they performed Gayavarjana in 1916 and visited most of the holy places of Northern India with only one meal a day for about a month. They are easily accessible to everybody and are very friendly with the officers of the District who are always very kind to them as it will be seen from the following few instances:—

1. The vacant space in front of their portion of the fort had been encroached upon by the Local Fund contractors during the minority of these Zamindars. The Taluq Board backed up the contractors and declined to give up the plot. However, on the representation of the senior Zamindar in 1910 to Mr. F. C. Parsons, the then Collector and President, District Board, he was kind enough to visit the disputed plot and ordered it to be handed to the Zamindar immediately.

2. The Government wanted to resume the six hill villages of Belgaum and Parvatipur Estates on the ground that they were not included in the assets of the Zamindari at the time of the permanent settlement. The senior Zamindar sent a memorial to the Government through the Collector, Mr. C. A.

The Senior Zamindar of Belgaum

The Junior Zamindar of Belgaum

Sri Gajapathi Krishna Chendra Deo Zamindar of Nandigam
(Page 16)

Henderson, on behalf of both the estates and had also personally represented the facts to him and Mr. L. T. Harris, the Agency Commissioner. Through the kind interference of these officers, the Government had been pleased to drop the matter and levied peshcush on the original income of these villages at the time of Permanent Settlement and granted supplementary Sanads accordingly.

The senior Zamindar served in the District Board for a term of six years. He was on the committee for the selection of Sub-Inspectors of Police on two occasions; he was on the Board of Examiners of Uria language for Tahsildars; and he was a member of the District Recruiting Committee during the great war when he and his brother are perhaps the first in the District to offer their personal services to the State. He contributed his mite to the War Loan and the Madras Hospital Ship and also induced the neighbouring Zamindars to help the cause with a liberal hand. He is also a member of the District Educational Council representing Uria section.

In 1922, Mr. L. T. Harris and Mr. C. A. Henderson entrusted the senior Zamindar as the only fit person to undertake the marriage negotiations of the orphan female wards of Peda Merangi and appointed him as their guardian. He took active part in the compromise between his wards and the reversioners of the Peda Merangi Estate, and was able to secure a property worth about a lac of rupees for his wards. This property is under his management at present by the orders of the District Court. He took immense pains to secure suitable educated bridegrooms for his wards and married them at Parvatipur during April 1924.

He takes much pleasure in the peaceful hobbies of gardening, agriculture and the study of books apart from the various other activities connected with the Estate which he supervises personally.

The junior Zamindar, Sri Bhavanarayan who is specially endowed with an engineering and technical head, has a peculiar knack of handling all other intricate matters quite successfully.

In 1915, the Zamindars of Belgaum and their Cousin brother the Zamindar of Parvatipur thought it wise to manage their estates jointly for some time with a common official staff, of course maintaining separate accounts for each estate. The Estate affairs were being supervised by the junior Zamindar of Belgaum who had effected several improvements to both the estates namely:—

1. He got the old waste lands surveyed in order to prevent further encroachments by the tenants and leased most of the portions for pasturing purposes and these fetch a good income to the Estates.

2. He very tactfully settled the long pending forest boundary disputes of Parvatipur Estate with those of Jeyapore Samasthanam and Sangamvalsa Estate, avoiding very costly litigations and restoring some hundreds of acres of both cultivable and forest lands to the Parvatipur Estate.

Towards the close of 1921 it was thought advisable to separate the management of the two Estates and this gave him enough time and scope to pursue other matters of more interest. Soon after he entertained a laudable idea of starting a match factory and travelled many places to study the prospects of the industry and the working of the different types of machinery. In 1923 he began the working of the factory with a Rotary type machine only. The various complications and pitfalls which he had to encounter with his industry did not in the least discourage him, but on the other hand made him more determined to prosecute the work with double the vigour. His efforts were at last crowned with complete success and he ably managed to produce damp-proof matches by the end of 1924. This gave him better hopes of success in the industry and he added more machinery to his industry. Soon after he effected several improvements both in the machinery and the factory which is now working very satisfactorily. The safety matches produced at present in this factory are better than Japanese products in all respects and can most favourably compete with Swedish matches. The resourcefulness and ingenuity of the Zamindar did not stop here but went a step further. He invented recipes for Pyrotechnic matches which are being imported solely from Germany and manufactured a small quantity during Deepawali season of 1926. These matches were highly appreciated by the public and were found decidedly better than the German product. In the same year he succeeded in manufacturing different kinds of sparklers which are solely supplied to India by Germany and Austria.

Several high officials of the Government and the nobility of the District visited the factory and were much pleased with the laudable enterprise of the Zamindar.

He is a member of the Indian Match Manufacturing Association and has been working very keenly towards the further development of the industry in all possible ways.

His favourite hobby is medicine in which he was much interested even from his boyhood. He has made a deep study of various books on Ayurveda, Homeopathy and Bio-chemistry and is perfectly familiar with all these systems of medicine. He has effected miraculous cures on several hopeless cases of even leprosy whose lifelong gratitude he fully deserves. He takes much pleasure to alleviate the suffering of humanity to the best of his ability and administers medicine quite gratis to his patients.

He is a good photographer and takes much pleasure in planning and laying out of gardens like his lder brother.

THE NANDIGAM ESTATE.

The Nandigam Estate forms part of the old Tekkali Zamindari which was in the possession of the *Kadamba* Vamsam or family for a period of 375 years. Ramakrishna Jaggad Deo, its last Zamindar, died in the year 1797 leaving no legitimate issue, and the East India Company then took over the management of the Zamindari converting it into a HAVELI or Government land. This old Tekkali Zamindari lies in the Government Taluk of Tekkali in the Ganjam District.

From 1797 to 1803, the Zamindari continued under the Company's management. In 1803, the Company sold away the Zamindari in public auction when it was purchased by Sri Gajapathi Padmanabha Deo, a scion of the Parlakimedi Rajah's family. The Company granted him a Sunnod-i-Milkiyat Istimrar for the Zamindari, designating him as the Zamindar thereof.

Padmanabha Deo died in October, 1832, leaving two sons, Gopinadha Deo, aged 36 years and Krishna Chandra Deo, aged 7 years. On his father's death, the former took over the management of the Zamindari, and when Krishna Chandra attained his majority they both managed the Zamindari jointly. Krishna Chandra died in 1854, *i.e.*, when he was about 29 years of age, and thence forward Gopinadha managed it alone. Gopinadha died in the year 1860.

Krishna Chandra Deo left two widows, Nilamoni and Radhamoni who had no issues. On Gopinadha's death, his widow Radhika who had some daughters and no sons, assumed the management of the Zamindari but she was not allowed to continue for long in the peaceful management thereof. Krishna Chandra's widows and the illegitimate sons of the two brothers set up a big litigation for the partition of the Zamindari. This protracted litigation ended with the Privy Council Judgment, dated 29th July, 1870 (XIII Moore's Indian Appeals 498). As a result of this judgment, Radhika got one-half of the Zamindari, and Nilamoni and Radhamoni got the other half consisting of the Nandigam, Talagam, Nowgam and Khallada-Khandams which constitute the Nandigam Estate.

Nilamoni adopted a son but he pre-deceased her, and Nilamoni herself died in 1882. Radhamoni adopted the late Zamindar, Sri Gajapathi Vasudeva Deo in October 1875 with the consent of her *Sapindas*. Radhika contested the validity of this adoption, but the said adoption was finally upheld by the Privy Council. Vasudeva Deo attained his majority on 3rd September, 1889 and he took over the management of the Estate on the 11th idem. Radhamoni died shortly afterwards, *i.e.*, on the 11th January, 1890.

Sri Gajapathi Vasudeva Deo died on the 9th January, 1898, leaving only one issue, *i.e.*, the present Zamindar who was born on the 30th September, 1895. The young Zamindar being barely three years of age at the time of his father's death, the Court of Wards assumed the management of his Estate. He was studying in Tekkali till his mother's death which occurred in 1903. He then studied at Chatrapur and Berhampore, and finally was sent to Newington Institution at Madras. He came out successful in the Matriculation Examination of the Madras University.

In the usual course of things, the Court of Wards should have handed over his Estate to him on the 29th September, 1916 when he attained his majority, but the civil litigation which was then launched by some of his father's illegitimate sons for a partition of the Estate, prevented them from so doing. After he came out successful from this litigation, the Court of Wards put him in possession of the Estate on the 12th September, 1917.

The Zamindar, Sri Sri Sri Gajapathi Krishna Chandra Deo who married the daughter of the Zamindar of Tarla, is blessed with two children, one a daughter, Sri Sakuntala Patta Jamma, and the other a son, Sri Gajapathi Padmanabha Deo.

Sri Gajapathi Padmanabha Deo who purchased the Tekkali Zamindari in 1803, is the great-grandfather of the present Zamindar. Padmanabha's father was one Durga Raz, a scion of the illustrious Rajah's family of Parlakimedi.

In 1799 and 1800 there were disturbances in Parlakimedi. The insurgents proceeded to take possession of the Tekkali Haveli, and to burn and plunder the villages. At this juncture Durga Raz rendered good services to the Government. As a reward for these services, he was appointed manager of the Estate (Parlakimedi) then under the Court of Wards' management. Durga Raz discharged the duties of the office with great ability for 13 years which constitute a very troublesome period in the history of that Estate, and died in the year 1813.

On the death of Durga Raz, his son Padmanabha succeeded him as manager of Parlakimedi Estate, but some time afterwards, owing to disturbances in the Estate he resigned the post and retired to his own Estate, at Tekkali. He was however recalled to the office in 1830 when the Parlakimedi Estate again came under the Court of Wards' management, and he held the office till his death which occurred at Parlakimedi in October, 1832. On his death, Padmanabha's widow committed *Sati*, and to this day the anniversary of this Sati is being regularly solemnized by the Nandigam Zamindar by the observance of the usual religious rites at the spot.

Durga Raz being a scion of the Parlakimedi Rajah's family the history of the Zamindari family of Nandigam merges itself into the history of that family. It is known as the *Gajapathi* family and it comes of the celebrated *Ganga vamsam*.

19

The Rajah Saheb of Jatprole in state uniform

The View of the Palace at Kollapuram where the Rajah Saheb resides

The Rajah Saheb in his Hindu Garment

The Rajah Saheb about twenty years ago

THE HISTORY OF SURABHI FAMILY AND THE RAJAH SAHEB OF JATPROLE (A STATE IN NIZAM'S DOMINIONS).

The Founder of the Family

This family is one of the ancient ruling families in the Deccan. It is believed that the family acquired the name 'Surabhi' after the name of the village in Mahaboob-Nagar District called in Urdu 'Gothal' where they lived and reigned for a long time. The founder of the "Surabhi" family is 'Pillalamarri Bethala Nayadu' who is otherwise called Chevi Reddy.

But some Sanskrit inscriptions recently discovered show that there were some ancestors in the family prior to Bethala Nayadu, prominent among whom was Bhimaraju, a flourishing member of the family. Some generations after Bhimaraju, there was Manjuraju, to whom Bethala Nayadu was the great grand-son.

A Telugu work on the village of Pillalamarri, by name "Bethala Charita," described that there were six members of the family before Manjuraju, the great grand-father of Bethala Nayadu. But some other ancient works point out that there were only two members of the family prior to Bethala Nayadu.

This inconsistency may be due to the fact that those authors had no facility for research work to get at authentic information.

The same reason for mentioning Bethala Nayadu as the founder of the Surabhi family was also stated in 'Bobbilivari Vamsa Charitram'. This Bethala Nayadu is not only the founder of this Surabhi family but also of the thirty-five other families, bearing 'Racharula' Gotram, *i.e.*, **Venkatagiri, Bobbili, Pittapuram** etc.

Beginning of the Reign in the Family.

The reign of the family began with Bethala Nayadu. But from the history gathered from stone inscriptions, etc., it is evident that there were some ruling kings in the family even before Bethala Nayadu, among whom one Bhimaraju of this family won a great victory over Chola Raja.

The founder 'Bethala Nayadu' was honoured by the then Emperor with many titles for his deeds of bravery and valour. He belonged to the period of 26th generation prior to **Sri Rajah Venkata Lakshmi Rao Bahadur, the present Raja of Jatprole**. By his valour, he conquered the territory of Nallagonda District in the Nizam's Dominions.

There is a tradition that Bethala Nayadu built a fortress on a mountain 4 miles west of his capital, Pillalamarri, and stored there all his treasures which are supposed to exist even now.

Bethala Nayadu was the contemporary of the king Ganapathy Rayalu who was the maternal grand-father of the Emperor Prataparudra. That was about 1208 A.D.

The name Bethala Nayadu was conferred upon Chevi Reddy by the Emperor Kakati Ganapthy for his having fearlessly faced the dreadful God Bethala.

An ancient king of this family by name Hamadri Reddy hoarded up much wealth and buried it at a place five miles north of Namanaganti and raised a stone inscription and also planted a Banian tree there. Under the tree he put up an idol of God Bethala as if to guard the treasures. It was inscribed on the stone that God Bethala would give possession of the treasures only to the bravest of the descendants of his family.

King Chevi Reddy, one of the descendants tried to get possession of the treasures. But God Bethala caused heavy rain, wind and thunder and also caused the big banian tree to fall down dreadfully before him; but Chevi Reddy was not at all afraid but stood up bravely and started fighting. With a view to further test, Bethala assumed the frightful appearance of a dragon and began to attack the King. Chevi Reddy, however, summoning up all the bravery and courage that he could command, caught hold of the dragon and was about to tear it to pieces. Then Bethala being pleased with Chevi Reddy's valour and bravery, forthwith disappeared only to appear again before the king in real form, and asked him to name his reward.

King Chevi Reddy being overwhelmed with emotion asked for sovereignty coupled with good fortune and bravery to run perpetually through his family, and also prayed that Bethala should always be on the side of his family to ensure success in any battlefield.

King Bethala Nayadu had three sons—(1) Damara Nayadu, (2) Prasadadittya Nayadu, and (3) Rudra Nayadu.

The eldest son, Damara Nayadu was a skilled swordsman and was famous for his numerous conquests. He consequently received many titles from the Emperor Gakatiya Ganapathi Rayalu. He maintained the reputation earned by his revered father, the founder of the family.

The second son, Prasadadittya Nayadu was greeted with a throne by the then Emperor in the presence of the contemporary kings of different Gotrams in honour of his having conquered the dreadful enemy of the Emperor.

In recognition of his having saved the empire he got the title of "Kakati Raja Pujito" at the hands of the Emperor.

During the reign of the Empress Rudramaba Devi he saved the Empire again from the hands of the enemies and further received the title of "The Founder of the Kakatiraja Empire."

He and his brother Rudra Nayadu conquered the rebels, Pandya Rajahs who refused to pay subsidy to the Empress 'Rudramaba Devi.' Both these princes were honoured with the title of "Pandyagaja Kesari."

Damara Nayadu, the eldest son of Bethala Nayadu, had many sons, among whom Vennama Nayadu, the heir descendant and Subbi Nayadu, another son were most famous.

An inscription on a stone at Umamaheswaram to the north of Sri Sylam describes about the valour of the heir-descendant, Vennama Nayadu, who had conquered many territories and expanded his kingdom with his brother Subbi Nayadu, his famous military assistant.

These two brothers were the contemporaries of the Empress Rudramaba Devi between the years 1258 and 1295 A.D.

King Vennama Nayadu had a son by name Dacha Nayadu who was otherwise called Yachama Nayadu.

When Emperor Prathadarudra was reigning, this Dacha Nayadu fought out the five Pandyan kings and captured the capital Kanchi Nagaram. He won a famous victory over them all and captured valuable booty and handed it over to the Emperor.

Since Dacha Nayadu smashed the gate of Kanchi Durga he got the title of "Kanchi Gate Breaker."

This Dacha Nayadu had 3 sons, (1) Singama Nayadu, (2) Vennama Nayadu, (3) Yachama Nayadu. Of these the eldest Singama Nayadu killed Machakomura Nayadu in a battle at Magathala and also killed Rudra Nayadu at Gilugupalli and obtained titles.

Further Singama Nayadu obtained eighty boons for his deeds of bravery from Prathaparudra II. Sometime later, the royal cousins at Jellipalli imprisoned Chintalapalli Singama Nayadu, the brother-in-law of the said Singama Nayadu. This Singama Nayadu consequently beseiged the fortress of Jellipalli with a vast army. The royal family then fearing to fight with him sent a mayavi (deity) called "Thammala Brahmajayudu" to kill Singa Bhupathi by foul means. The Mayavi approached Singa Bhupathi in a friendly manner and daggered him. Then Singama Nayadu just before dying called his sons Enapotha Nayadu and Madha Nayadu who were near him and told them to kill the enemies and perform the "Tilatharpanams" with the blood of the enemy kings who had killed him craftily.

Singama Nayadu had two sons,

(1) Enapotha Nayadu and
(2) Madha Nayadu.

These two brothers in order to carry out the dying commands of their beloved father, besieged Jellipalli fortress. The then kings of Chalukya who were inside fought bravely with the help of Gona Malla Reddy and other Reddies, the Zamindars of Ramgiri and two hundred Chieftains at Jungerla near Moguluru Durgam but were eventually defeated and killed.

"Tilatharpanams" (funeral rituals) were performed with the blood of those slain instead of with water and thus their burning enmity was quenched.

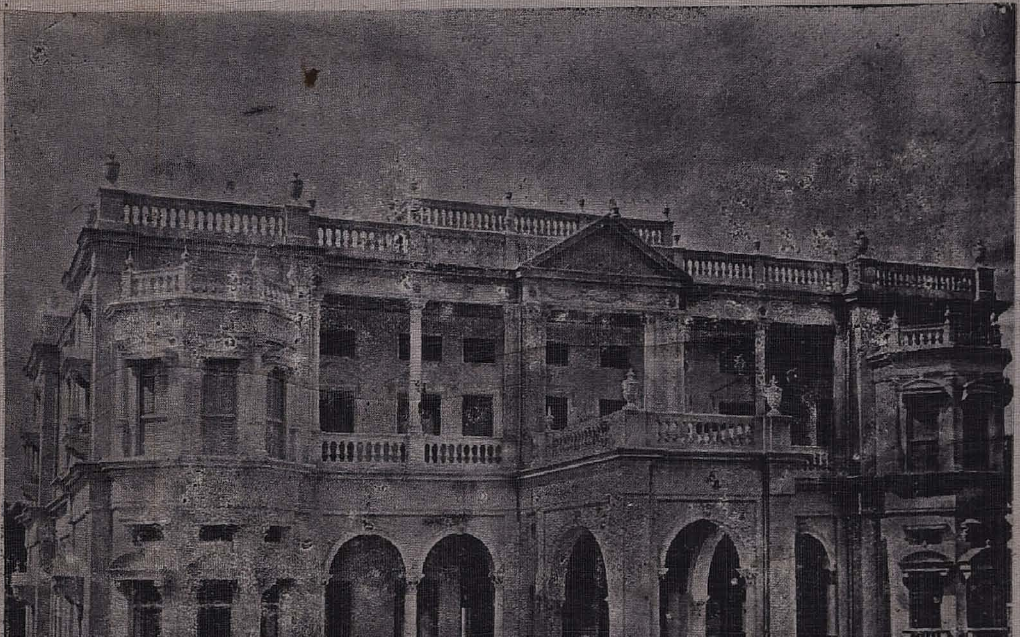
Madha Nayadu, the brother of Enapotha Nayadu as already mentioned won the battle at Jellipalli and carried out the orders of his beloved father. He had also conquered some Andhra Rajas and Mahommedan Nawabs. He constructed steps to Sri Sylam a long way and also erected a stone Mantapam at Umamaheswaram, a sacred place to the North of Sri Sylam. Some one of his ancestors had built a temple for God Umamaheswara just below a waterfall, so that the God of the temple might perpetually have the benefit of 'Nitya Abhishakam,' that is the daily Abhishakam (bathing); but this perennial downpour of water in great volume and pressure was causing much damage to the walls of the temple. Mada Nayadu therefore renovated the temple by means of good rock construction and diverted the course of the flow, leaving only a gap on the top of the temple for only a jet of water to pour over the God to serve the purpose of 'Nitya Abhishakam' by which means the purpose of the original temple was served and damage saved. He was ruling over the regions between Sri Sylam and Vindya mountains.

Passing on to the 13th generation we come to Errasoora Nayadu who had two sons, Madha Nayadu and Yachama Nayadu. The present Velugati Dynasty, Rajahs of Venkatagiri, are the descendants of this Yachama Nayadu; while Surabhi Dynasty, the Rajahs of Jetprole, are the descendants of Madha Nayadu.

'Surabhi' is the name derived from the fame that the family had acquired. This is noted in the Sannad issued by Madha Nayadu to Kami Reddi Gopayya in 1881 (Salivahana Era). The name Surabhi also conveys an idea of liberality. It is just possible to think that the title 'Surabhi' is only the name of the village where the family had been residing as already observed in the opening of this article. But judging from the use of the word Surabhi in these titles, *viz.*, "Suranapi Bhayayanti; Suranamapi Bheerebhyaha" it clearly means "those who had terrified even the Gods." This interpretation is in accordance with the achievement of one of his ancestors by name Chevi Reddy who had attacked God Bethala as above described.

The Rajah Saheb in Jungle.

Rajah Saheb Sending a Message from Jungle through a Carrier



The View of the Palace at Hyderabad (Suradhi Vilas)

Description of Jatprole

This is at a distance of 100 miles south-east of Hyderabad and at a distance of 30 miles north-east of Kurnool and 50 miles to the east of Kurnool and 50 miles to the east of Sri Sylam. The great rivers Krishna and Thungabhadra flow within 3 miles to the south-east of Jatprole.

As Venkata Lakshmanna Rao Garu of the 25th generation had no male issue, he had to adopt one Venkatajagannatha Rao Garu, son of Rao Ramayya Garu of Rao family who were the relatives of Rao family residing at Gurujala. This Jagannatha Rao Bahadur ruled from Faslis 1260 to 1293. He was a good horseman and came out successful in many of the races held at Bangalore and Madras.

This Jagannatha Rao Garu also had no male issue. He was long on the look out for a fit and proper boy for adoption and at last selected one from among Velugati Dynasty, the descendant of Yachama Nayadu, who was called Navaneetha Krishna Yachandra Nayadu, the 4th son of Satwayana Krishna Yachama Nayadu. He was taken in adoption on the 7th of March, 1879. The Dattahomam (adoption) ceremony took place at Tirupathi on Thursday (Iswara Palguna Sukla Thrayodasi). He was from that time called Venkata Lakshmana Rao Bahadur. On the 22nd of the same month on Friday (Iswara Palguna Krishna Chaturthi) Jagannatha Rao Garu entered Jatprole with his adopted son and held a great feast in memory of the occasion. On the 6th of March, 1814, Venkata-Lakshmana Rao Bahadur was crowned on the throne and the Rajah Saheb was discharging his duties to the entire satisfaction of his feudal lord Nawab Mir Mahaboob Alikhan Bahadur, etc., etc., G.C.S.I. and G.C.B., the then Nizam of Hyderabad, Deccan, who was therefore pleased to bestow the title of "Nizam Nawaz Vanth" on the 3rd of March, 1896. The Rajahs of Jatprole are cordially and respectfully invited to all feasts that take plase in the Huzur.

After the Rajah Saheb had assumed charge of the administration he completed the construction of "Lakshmi Sagar" begun by his father. He rendered many facilities to the agriculturists in his Samastanam. He planted a garden and named it after his father "Jagannatba Rao Bagh." He also constructed temples for Hindus and mosques for Mahommedans and made arrangements for their proper management. He started a press called "Jagannatha Vilas Press" after the name of his father. Rajah Saheb visited Benares twice and Rameswaram once with his family on pilgrimage. He got "Chandrikaparinayam" a book written by his ancestors annotated by Sadasiva Sastry and Sesha Sastry and published many books connected with their family.

Conclusion

The life of the Rajah Saheb is not only interesting but illustrative of remarkable bravery and prowess. He is a good shot and shikari. He has bagged and shot by now 134 tigers as may be seen in the group picture illustrated here and the number is increasing from year to year, which is remarkably wonderful. His reputation in this direction is perhaps second to none in India. His noble daughter also shot a tiger and other wild animals and this achievement on the part of a lady illustrates the fact that ladies brought up in the company of valour and prowess imbibe their spirit and even compete them in fields of many such activities. In fact, the Rajah Saheb has developed a passion for shooting alongside of the great qualities of his head and heart. He is the pink of courtesy and good-natured by habit and temperament, and is very charitably disposed towards the poor and needy and liberal in gifts which is quite in keeping with the traditions and significance of the word 'Surabhi' synonymous 'liberality'. He is a man with a religious turn of mind. By his adoption he had carried the noble and hoary traditions of the Venkatagiri Samastanam and adapted them suitably to the Surabhi family also. The Surabhi family as the foregoing history disclosed was remarkable for their military valour and prowess and was a strong power in the land and the present Rajah Saheb fits in with the rank and file of his famous forebears in the Surabhi family. The adoption therefore has proved to be fruitful of very good results. The Rajah Saheb has always at his heart the welfare and material advancement of his subjects and leaves no stone unturned to ameliorate the economic conditions of his subjects. His subjects therefore love and revere him extremely. There is a great future of usefulness to his state in particular and to the country at large in general. His state may be styled a model state in the Nizam's Dominions; for, one can see progress in every direction of state activities. The sole credit of it goes to the Rajah Saheb. The Rajah Saheb has done much to the state to promote also the municipal and social amenities of the life of his subjects. He has established many schools and hospitals and many other charitable institutions all over the state and keeps his roads always in good repair. In recognition of the Rajah Saheb's valuable services to the Nizam of Hyderabad who is his chief Lord, he was conferred with the title of "Nizam Nawaz Vanth."

Last but not the least, his love and regard for the British throne is deep-seated and he has assimilated the best qualities of the British character and administration.

We most earnestly pray that God may grant him health and strength coupled with longevity and we are sure our prayers are echoed by all his beloved people both in his state and abroad.

THE KURUPAM ZAMINDARI.

The Zamindari, scheduled by Act II of 1904, is an impartible and inalienable estate and covers an area of about 700 square miles of plains and hills in the north eastern portion of the Vizagapatam District.

Moharban-i-Dostan Vairicherla Narasimha Suryanarayana Raju Bahadur, the present Zamindar, succeeded to the ancient Zamindari of Kurupam, on the death of his father, Raja Vairicherla Veerabhadra Raju on the 18th of February 1918. His mother Lakshminarasayamma Pattamahadevi, the younger daughter of the late Maharaja Sri Goday Narayana Gajapathi Row, K. C. I. E. predeceased his father by seventeen years. The present Zamindar is the descendant of the renowned Vairicherla family which belongs to the Silavamsam branch of the mighty lunar line of kings. The Kurupam line was founded pretty long ago, during the days of Vinayak Deo, the founder of the present Jeyapore line. In order to appease the existing feuds with the family of his bride, the only daughter of the last of Nandapur kings of the Silavamsam line, Vinayak Deo bestowed, on military tenure, Kurupam and the adjoining country on one of the leading members of Silavamsam family, and the present Zamindars of Kurupam are the descendants of this ancestor.

The present Zamindar was born on the 9th of April 1897, and is a Hindu and Khsatria by caste. His father bestowed the greatest possible care on his education and training and was early placed under the care of European tutors. After some years of homely training he studied in the Christian and the Pachappa's Colleges in the city of Madras. From the Pachappa's College he went over to the late Newington College, then under the able management of Mr. Cameron Morrison, M.A.

After he finished his education he married on the 14th of April 1918, the only daughter of the present Rajah Saheb and Feudatory Chief of Talcher, Orissa and has been blessed with two sons, the elder named Vairicherla Durgaprasad Virabadra Deo and the younger Vairicherla Chanara Chudamony Deo.

The old Zamindars of Kurupam were independent rulers. The Kurupam family rendered valuable assistance to the British East India Company when they were in war with the French, especially in the Northern Circars and particularly in the District of Vizagapatam, in the last decade of the eighteenth century. One of the Rajahs of Kurupam quelled the rebellions of the Palaigars after the battle of Padmanabham in 1791 and helped to bring the country to a condition of peace and order and in return, in gratitude to him, the East India Company made a permanent settlement with him in 1802.

The present Zamindar takes a great interest in the work of the Zamindari to which he pays his unremitting attention. Like his father, he loves public work. He is a member of the District Board, Vizagapatam, and of the Taluk Board of Parvatipur and also a member of the Madras Legislative Council. He has an abiding faith for the high ideals for which the British Empire stands and in the continued connection of this country with it as its integral part. An ardent patriot, he believes in the sure and steady political progress hand in hand with the much-needed economic regeneration of the country.

Sri Vairichera Narasimha Suryanarayana
Rajah Bahadur (Page 20)

The group of Tiger heads shot by the Rajah Saheb of Jatprole

THE ZAMINDAR OF CHIKATI.

The Zamindari of Chikati is an ancient one which traces its origin to the year 881 A.D., corresponding to Salivahan Satabdha 807. One Kesava Ravutarai, *alias*, Veerakardama Simha, a distinguished and valiant Sardar and a kinsman of the Raja of Puri left the latter's service and founded the estate, building his capital in a beautiful and picturesque place by the side of the Buddagiri Hill, known as Chikati (Gnana Varaha or wild boar of knowledge). Thick jungles and forests were opened up and reclaimed and soon a vast country of arable lands, topes, tanks and villages sprang round. However, the Capital had to be shifted several times from place to place as the country extended till at last it was fixed at Chikati.

The Zamindari lies in the District of Ganjam and has about forty whole Inam villages given as gifts to pandits and purohits. There are about one hundred and sixty other Jirayiti villages. Thus there are two hundred villages in the Zamindari covering an area of about one hundred square miles, with a population of 60,000 as per the census list of the year 1911. The gross average income is about Rs. 3,00,000 and several old systems of relations between the landlord and the tenant still continue. The annual permanently settled Peishkist payable to the Government is Rs. 33,000 while the cess fluctuates from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 40,000 a year.

The origin and development of the Zamindari after Kesava Ravutarai, the illustrious founder, begins with Jodumani Ravutarai, the sixteenth of the line of kings after the founder. Jodumani Ravutarai reigned from the year 1634 to 1691 A.D. and it was during his reign that the title of "Rajendra Debo" (the chief of the best of kings) was conferred on him by the late George Hation, the then agent of the Honourable East India Company. The next ruler of importance was Krishna Rajendra Debo who reigned from 1770 to 1790 A.D. He rendered immense service both to his own province and to the East India Company by pursuing and arresting the redoubtable Sanno Debo, a Mohiri Chief, who murdered Khorosojee, the Government agent, and whose only aim was plunder and depredation. It was in recognition of such services that the title of Raja was conferred on him by the East India Company. Afterwards Raja Peetambara Rajendra Debo succeeded to the ghadi and during his reign in the year 1804 A.D. the system of permanent settlement was introduced, when his name was registered and the Kabuliat was granted to him. The next in importance was Raja Viswambara Rajendra Debo, who managed the estates for a period of twenty-nine years. This gentleman handed over the estate to his eldest son Sri Raja Kisora Chandra Rajendra Debo and spent his last years in meditation. His younger son Sri Lakshimi Narasimha Debo was given in adoption to the Zamindar of Shergada and thus the estates of Chikati and Shergada came to be ruled by two cousins.

Sri Raja Kisora Chandra Rajendra Debo ruled for eighteen years and his reign is distinguished for his thirst after knowledge and his high patronage for learning. Villages were given as gifts to the pandits and the learned men. He himself was a good scholar in Sanskrit and translated into Uriya the Sanskrit drama "Bidagadhamadavam." Its merits were recognised only during the days of his son and soon it was prescribed by the University of Madras as a text-book for the B. A. examination. After a period of happy reign Sri Kisora Chandra Rajendra Debo passed away and was succeeded by his son Sri Radhamohan Rajendra Debo, in the year 1903.

Sri Radhamohan Rajendra Debo had no proper opportunity for proper education during his younger days. However, he had the private tuition and the coaching of his uncle Sri Pitambara Bhramaravara Deo, an all-round man of many arts and sciences. He taught Sri Radhamohan Uriya composition and versification. Radhamohan had endowed in him the faculty of natural taste for poetry, and his usual haunts during his younger days were hills and dales, which he used to describe in stirring couplets. As the child is the father of the man, this faculty in him fast developed and the result was the production of several dramas, namely Premtarang, Parimala Sahagaman, Prakruti Rahasya, Prakruti Pranaya, Pratap, and Kabys of Premamanjari. Later he also collected the verses composed by him in his younger days and those composed by his predecessors and published them in a book called 'Pratham Padyabali.' He has a stage of his own where his dramas are enacted. The merits of these works were not without recognition, as, soon they were prescribed as texts for the F.A. and the B.A. examinations by the University of Madras.

He is a great traveller and has travelled all over India. He was endowed with very keen powers of observation and throughout his tour he studied the development of structure and Art and soon after his return he copied every one of his observations in his palace. He has a fine taste for æsthetic and could draw and prepare nice and beautiful plans, even as to baffle a technical critic. He improved, remodelled, and constructed his palaces in a very grand and stylish manner, and especially the buildings with the electric installations and the gardens attached to them are monuments of his skill in engineering and fine arts.

He owns a fine library consisting of Sanskrit, Bengali, Uriya and English books of standard authors. He started an Elementary School which

has been now raised to a secondary school. At his instance, the Government Post Office was converted into a combined Post and Telegraph Office.

The Raja Saheb has very great faith and interest in the Ayurvedic system of treatment. He has in his palace a good stock of Ayurvedic and Allopathic medicines for distribution to the poor.

During his days in the year 1918 the whole Zamindari was resurveyed at a cost of a lakh of rupees.

The Rajah Saheb has three sons, Sri Sri Sri Gourichandra Debo, Sri Saratchandra Deo, and Sri Udaya Chandra Nisanka Rai Deo. The third son Sri Udaya Chandra Nisanka Rai Deo, a boy of eight years is given in adoption to the Zamindar of Budarsing in the District of Ganjam.

The Raja Saheb handed over the estate to his eldest son Sri Sri Sri Gourichandra Debo on the 13th of July, 1923 after a reign of twenty years. The Rajah Saheb now leads a retired life staying at Girisola, eight miles from the Headquarters, a calm and healthy place.

The present Zamindar Sri Sri Sri Gourichandra Debo is a very promising, simple and social personage. He was educated at Cuttack and at Calcutta where he appeared for the Senior Cambridge Examination in the year 1921.

Soon after he took up the management of the estates he began to improve it in every way and the whole estate is now managed on up-to-date lines. He has started a reading circle, with a splendid library of books in English, Bengali, Sanskrit, Urdu, Uriya and Telugu, and is called after his son's name "Sree Satchidananda Association." He is a member of the Ganjam District Board and a member of the Ganjam European Club. He is also an excellent sportsman.

The present Zamindar is now blessed with a son and a daughter.

THE ZAMINDAR OF VISSANNAPETA AND GUNDEPALLI ESTATES (W. GODAVARY DISTRICT).

Mothay Narasimha Row Garu, Zamindar of Vissannapeta and Gundepalli Estates, Ellore, is the third son of the late Mothay Venkatasawmi Garu. Late Mothay Venkatasawmi Garu was a Zamindar and resident of Ellore. He was also a banker and businessman dealing in local produce. He was a Municipal Councillor. He was charitably disposed towards all and he was well known for feeding the poor, for which he set apart a large amount. He also left behind a large sum for a big choultry to be built, which was faithfully carried out by his sons, and which is now known as the "Java Chatram." He was and is even now popularly known as the "uncrowned prince of Ellore."

Late Mr. Mothay Venkatasawmi Garu left behind three sons, of whom the third alone survived, the eldest Mothay Achian Garu being dead early. The second late Mr. Venkanna Garu like his father was a Municipal Councillor. He greatly built up and improved the business and completed the big choultry left incomplete by his father. He and his late brother Achia together had given away large sums by way of donations. They gave away Rs. 30,000 donation for the National College at Ellore. He died in the year 1921.

Mr. Mothay Narasimha Row Garu, the third and the surviving son of late Mothay Venkatasawmi Garu, was born in the year 1901. He had his early education in the local High School. After a sound training he took up the management of the estate and business in the year 1921. He is a good businessman and a sound manager. He has built a big and decent building on his own plan, without any technical help whatever, and it is a big mansion worthy of appreciation even by the technical critic.

He also kept up the charitable and generous disposition of the family by starting a Lower Secondary School called the Mothay Achiah and Venkanna Hindu School after the names of his late brothers. Most of the students in this institution are on free scholarship. In the recent Cyclone he did yeoman service by feeding and clothing the poor.

He is a sound politician and ere long may spring to prominence. He is a keen sportsman and has his hobby in billiards and tennis.

Sri Radhamohan Rajendra Debo Zamindar of Chikati (Page 21)

Sri Rajah Damera Venkata Seetharamayya Bahadur Garu (Page 23)

Sri Hari Hara Marda Rajah Deo Bahadur Rajah of Kallikote & Atagada (Page 25)

Mothay Narasimha Rao Garu (Page 22)

THE ZAMINDAR OF JAGGAMPETAH ESTATE.

Sri Rajah Damera Venkata Sitaramayya Bahador Garu, Zamindar of Jaggampetah Estate, Katravulapalli Post, in the District of East Godavari, was born in 1886 at Lingalavalasa, Vizagapatam District, in a family of poets. His forefathers were eminent poets and had composed many verses all of which were published by one Sri Raja Damera Venkata Sitaramayya Bahadur Garu. Sri Rajah Damera Venkata Sitaramayya Bahadur received liberal education at Bobbili and Madras. After the completion of his education at Madras in the year 1902, he went over to Katravulapalli to marry the only daughter of Sri Raja Chelikani Appa Rao Bahadur Garu, Zamindar of Jaggampetah. The next day after the arrival of the son-in-law was marked with great fortune, for the Privy Council decreed his father-in-law Sri Rajah Chelikani Appa Rao Garu's right to the whole Zamindari. Soon after, the marriage of Sir Rajah Damera Venkata Sitaramayya Bahadur Garu took place and he obtained Jaggampetah Estate as his dowry or wedding present.

A year before the marriage the father-in-law Raja Chelikani Appa Rao Bahadur Garu passed away and hence Sri Rajah Damera Venkata Sitaramayya Garu had to take up the management of the Zamindari on behalf of his mother-in-law Sri Rajah Venkayyamma Garu. After he took up the management he effected several improvements and restored a big ruined tank, named it after his father-in-law and made it a supplementary source to the precarious Yeloru Irrigation resource. This supplementary source now serves five surrounding villages. He freed the Zamindari from the heavy debts due to litigation and opened banking business.

Sri Rajah Damera Sitaramayya Bahadur is richly endowed with a humane and charitable disposition and is ever for doing good to others. He rendered all possible help to the deserving, both within and without his family. He appealed to the generosity of his mother-in-law and arranged the grant of Jaggampetah C. Estate to the daughters of his father-in-law's brother though the decision of the Privy Council was against this. He took charge of the property worth Rs. 50,000 from his father-in-law's sister Sri Panuganti Lakshmi Venkayyamma Garu for a choultry, freed it from bad investments, and opened a choultry in her name at Katruvulapalli. He arranged a favourable compromise in the litigation regarding Jaggampetah Choultry lands and has been running the choultry more liberally than before. He established a poor house for the blind and the lame in the name of his father-in-law and endowed it with lands. He respected his mother-in-law's wishes and made Sri Venkateshwaraswamy's temple at Katravulapalli Divyasthalam and endowed it with lands. He added considerably to the endowments of other temples in the Zamindari.

He is a capable administrator and his estates are never under difficulty through lack of administrative capacity. He is accessible to his ryots and spares no pains in rendering them every reasonable help. The ryots have a great regard for him and carry out his desires and commands.

As aforesaid he was born in a family of poets and is profoundly well versed in Sanskrit and makes a critical study of Ramayana and other religious books. He encourages and patronises vedic scholars and grants them Varshikams. He published "Sri Venkatachella Mahatyam" composed by his great grand-father Sri Chinna Venkatarayadu Garu and "Dasavataranuti satakam" composed by his father Sri Chinna Venkatarayadu Garu. He intends publishing shortly "Surya Saptati" written by his father.

The virtues of the Zamindarini Sri Rajah Subbayyamma Bahadur Garu deserves special mention. She has completely subordinated her will to that of her husband though properties yielding one and half lakhs a year devolved on her with absolute rights. She engages herself mostly in pooja and in reading sacred books. As she had not the fortune of begetting children she pressed her husband and made him marry again in 1922 for the continuance of the line. She took the boy as soon as he was born, named him after her father, and has been bringing him up as her own son.

THE ZAMINDAR OF SEITUR.

The Zamindary of Seitur is situated in the south-west corner of the Ramnad District (South India), with an aggregate area of 86 square miles, inclusive of 8 Revenue Villages and a vast forest tract.

The Zamindary came into existence during the reign of Vikrama Chola of the Great Chola dynasty and the present proprietor is a descendant of that royal family.

Like his father who was at once a poet and a scholar of repute the present Zamindar is a patron of Tamil literature and is unduly known for his munificent gifts to the cause of education and music. He maintains at his own cost a free elementary school and a hospital in his own place. He has further subscribed Rs. 17,000 for the construction of a Board High School at Rajahpalaiam (7 miles off Seitur) to be designated after his name. His liberal donations to the Ramakrishna Home at Madras, the American Mission Maternity Hospital, Madura, the Madura Second Grade College and the Palamcottah Mission High School, make him a patron of learning throughout the southern Districts of the Presidency.

Himself a musician, he spends annually tens of thousands of Rupees in the celebration of the Vykasi and car festivals whose main attraction is the long programme of musical entertainments by all musicians of fame throughout South India. These festivals take place at Devadanam where nature has bestowed her choicest blessings. The Zamindar has constructed a big Hall in front of the Temple at a cost of about Rs. 50,000.

Tainted somewhat with a religious tinge his charitable endowments are mainly the maintenance of a Choultry at Srivilliputur at a very great cost.

The Zamindar feels most happy with his four children by his third wife. The heir apparent is named Theyaga Raja Sundara Doss Pandian Avergal and is at present aged 4. The Zamindar has further purchased a large estate at a cost of Rs. 12,000 in the Madura District in the name of his second son, Sivaprakasa Pandian Avergal. All his three wives are the daughters of the late Zamindar of Urkad in Tinnevelly District.

His affectionate interest in the welfare of his brother Zamindars is worthy of note. His father having gifted the Zamindari of Elumalai, to his nephew Vadamalai Thiruvanatha Muthusami Thevar Avergal the Zamindar of Seitur brought up the present Zamindar of Elumalai and his brothers with a degree of affection worthy of his relationship and dignity.

The estate has been surveyed at a cost of Rs. 40,000 and settlement operations are in progress. The relationship existing between the proprietor and the ryots can well be gathered from the fact of the presentation of a beautiful elephant by the ryots on the occasion of the birthday anniversary of the heir apparent.

He is the President of the Sivakasi Taluk Board and a member of the Ramnad District Board also. He is one of the elected representatives of the Non-Mohammadan Rural Constituency in the District of Madura to the Madras Legislative Council, where his position as the Chief Whip of the Party in power is always looked at in a most hopeful view, by citizens at large. He is further the President of the Maravar Mahajana Sangam of Madura and Ramnad Districts and he gladly continues to be so, with a view to uplift the whole community on healthy lines.

H. H. THE RAJAH OF KALLIKOTE AND ATAGADA, (GANJAM DISTRICT).

The Zamindari.

The Zamindari of Kallikote containing about 238 villages has an area of 231 square miles and it lies to the northern boundary of the Madras Presidency, in the District of Ganjam. The adjoining taluk of Atagada was purchased by a predecessor of the family and it covers about 265 square miles, containing in it 203 villages divided into three muttahs or sub-divisions. The soil is alluvial and well irrigated. There are several mines of Graphite and Manganese for geologists to tap the mineral resources of the State.

Ancestry of the Family.

The family of the Rajah is an ancient one tracing its origin from many centuries behind. Details about the old and ancient members of the family are all merged in obscurity. The first member of the family about whom anything is known is Maruva Hari Gopal and he belonged to the family of the Rana of Marwar. He was brought up in the house of the Rana's brother with whose daughter he fell in love and subsequently married, after performing a penance called 'Bisbavasu Gandarbhara Rajamantra' because he was marrying a girl of a different sect. The marriage took place at Puri and the result of the alliance was a son named Gopala Ballabha.

Gopala Ballabha after the death of his parents went to Chittoor to perform the funeral rites, and there after a time, married the grand-daughter of his father's maternal uncle, and lived happily for some time.

Origin of the Zamindari.

After some time Gopala Ballabha with a large following went to Goppakudu now an island on the Chilka lake, and there he built a temple and called Gupteswara temple, dedicated to Siva, and finally settled there. Gopala Ballabha was very religious, and after his arduous task of founding a settlement was over, went on a pilgrimage visiting all important sacred shrines. When he was in Royapuram in Central India, he acquainted himself with the Dewan of Hyderabad, who happened to be there and went with him to Hyderabad and paid his respects to the Nizam. The Nizam was very much pleased with him and granted him a sannad for lands extending to 400 miles. Then he returned to Goppakudu, where he found all his children dead except his third son 'Maruvakali Prasada Rana', who succeeded his father upon his death. Maruvakali Prasada Rana appointed minor Rajas under him and thus became the overlord. He also had a large income. Maruva was the first member of the family to maintain elephants, horses and sepoys and to build a fort and live in it. His second son Kubersing who was the only surviving claimant had gone on a pilgrimage incog, succeeded his father upon his death.

The next important member of the family is Bolabadra Rana, who went to Oudh, married there and ultimately built a fort and settled there. He estblished two hundred and fifty-three villages and dug a canal known as Kharkari which is now the boundary line between Kallikote and Atagada. His son Narayana Rana was a distinguished warrior and athlete and he distinguished himself in a competition called the 'Bulbul' in which he dragged the Raja's elephant forwards by its tusks and backwards by its tail. Narayan Rana married the niece of the king and lived happily.

Calamities.

As usual everywhere calamities also came in the usual course of time. No one escapes from the hands of affliction, and after all, as all are mortals, time hath its period of disturbance over the tranquil life and peaceful rule of the Kallikote family. This family also had its own vicissitudes of fortune. The peace and prosperity of the family was broken and calamity set in and as calamities do not come in single, this family was no exception to the visitation.

It was in the days of Viswambara Deva Rama that a dispute arose in the family. He married at the same time two wives, one being the daughter of Ramakesari, the Rajah of Puri, and the other being the daughter of Bagala Ameer Singh of Rewa. Then a quarrel arose between the two families on account of their marriage, the quarrel gradually developed into a bitter fight and the result of the fight was loss of many lives on either side. In this confusion the family also lost a part of the estate being absorbed by the usurpers. In the wake of such calamities, dissensions also crept in between the Rajah of Puri and the Nizam of Hyderabad. In the battle that ensued between the Rajah of Puri and the Nizam of Hyderabad, Rajah Viswambara helped the Rajah of Puri and eventually lost his life.

Revival.

Next came the calm after the storm; Gendu and Kirthan, two brothers of the family, succeeded to the gadi and paid a visit to the Nizam with the sannads their predecessors had received from him. The Nizam gave them a warm reception and granted them the lands now known as 'Chattramutta'. They also got possession of 'Paluru' in a battle they won. After a few decades, Balakeswara Deo ascended the throne and had the honour of receiving the title of 'Marda Rajah' from the Rajah of Puri.

He discovered the waterfall now known as Nirmala Jhar, where he also built a temple. He dug a big tank called 'Marda Sagar' and established a village there.

After a time the people of Ganjam rebelled against the British Government and the authorities suspecting the Rajahs to be the instigators, curbed their powers and reduced them to the rank of Zamindars.

Regular Reign in the Family.

The next prominent successor was Sri Rajah Saheb Meharbani Dostan Narayana Marda Raja Deo, an accomplished scholar of Sanskrit and Uriya and a military expert. Besides several other temples, he completed the temple of Jagannath, a work of seven generations at a huge cost; and also established Sanskrit schools and Ayurvedic dispensaries. His generosity was so bounteous, that he had celebrated very many marriages and Upanayanams of poor Brahmins, and helped the pilgrims also very much.

He was succeeded by his son, Sri Rajah Harihara Marda Rajah Deo Bahadur, who was born at Kallikote on the 10th July, 1872. There was great jubilation throughout the State when the prince was born. He was taught Sanskrit and English privately, and as he was young the Court of Wards took over the management of the estate, and the young Rajah was sent to Parlakimidi for further education. He took charge of the management of the estate in 1883 in his twenty-first year. The Rajah Saheb first married in 1894, the daughter of Babu Brindabhan Chandra Bhunja Deo, Chotia Saheb of Mombhung, a native state in Orissa, and after her sudden death, he married her sister in 1895.

The Chilka Lake.

The Rajah Saheb purchased the Rhamba estate in 1895 and as the major portion of the Chilka Lake belongs to it a brief description of the lake may not be out of place here.

The Chilka lake has a length and breadth of fifty and ten miles, full of fish, and because of its immense production of prawns, wild fowls resort to it. Birds of different sorts come either to fish or breed. There are many islands scattered here and there, and there is one particular island on the western coast called the Deer island where flourish herds of spotted deer.

The Rani is an accomplished scholar in Uriya and is an authoress of a book called 'Balikapato' in Uriya, dealing with Ramayana and Mahabaratha in dialogue form. She gave birth to a son in 1898, who unfortunately died a baby, and in 1899 she was blessed with another son. The Prince was pet-named Eric and was brought up by an expert governess with utmost care and caution.

In 1898 Lord Elgin, the then Viceroy and Governor-General conferred the title of Raja on Sri Hari Hara Marda Rajah Deo Garu.

The Rajah is quite up-to-date and moves abreast with the times. The architectural beauty of his mansions at Rambha and Kallikota demonstrate the æsthetic tastes of the Rajah.

The Rajah is a patron of letters. The upkeep of the Kallikota College is largely due to his munificence. In honor of the Diamond Jubilee of her late Majesty Queen Victoria he built 'the Diamond Jubilee Hall' at Berhampur which was a long-felt want. The Rajah also started a free dispensary and a press called the Estate Press, where two Uriya journals are printed free of charge to the Editor in order to popularise journalism in the Uriya Districts.

The Rajah by dint of his exertions and ability has increased the income of the estate by a surplus of Rs. 190,000 The Rajah has travelled far and wide in India. He personally inspects the villages of the Zamindari, to receive and redress complaints from the poor, to stamp out evil and corruption, and to ameliorate their economic conditions. The success achieved by the Rajah Saheb in this direction is praiseworthy.

SULTAN ALI RAJAH AYISHA BEEBI OF CANNANORE, ARAKAL PALACE, CANNANORE.

Sultan Ali Rajah Beebi of Cannanore belongs to the illustrious and ancient house of the Rajah of Cannanore, whose family holds the hereditary title of the Rajah as well as the title of Sultan which was conferred in 1911. Before the advent of the British Government, Malabar was governed by the Perumals. Cheraman Perumal the last of the Perumals became a convert to Muhammedanism.

There are three different accounts on record as to the origin and foundation of this family. The first account is that Cheraman Perumal who reigned for thirty-six years in Malabar encouraged merchants and invited Jonaka Moppilas to his kingdom. He was deeply attached to a Muhammedan and his wife, whom he often invited to his Capital, from their native land of Aryapuram and finally installed them at Cannanore. Subsequently the Muhammedan was called Ali Raja, that is lord of the deep or the sea. The second version is that the first chieftain of the family who was a Nayar, and who also occupied the place of a minister to Kolathiri Raja embraced Islam and adopted the name of Muhammed or Muhammed Ali about the end of the 11th century A.D. The third version goes to say that a lady of the Kolathiri Raja's family whose present residence is at Chirakkal, six miles north of Cannanore, was obliged to embrace Islam under peculiar circumstances and that she founded the dynasty.

The aforesaid Cheraman Perumal after a short period of tranquil rule left for Mecca on a pilgrimage, and unfortunately he died there. Before he left the country he divided his kingdom between his twelve chieftains and issued instructions to the members of this illustrious house to keep the light he had left behind burning perpetually in the very room where he had slept for the last time in this palace. He warned the members of the household that a serious calamity would visit the family if that light were ever extinguished either by accident or otherwise, and in obedience to his wishes the light is still kept burning throughout the day and night. The mattress on which he slept in this palace remains spread on his way to Mecca even to this day and the cot and the chair are also still being preserved.

The family has its own peculiar customs and habits. When the head of the family is a female, she prefixes to her name the title of Sultan Ali Raja Beebi of Cannanore. The house like the Thangals (priests) of Malabar who are the direct descendants of the Prophet follow the *Marumakatayam* law of inheritance (succession in the female line). The regal position they hold is called the 'Stanam' and succession is according to seniority. The ladies of the family are generally married only to Rajahs and Keyis meaning rich and influential landlords.

The Ali Rajas commanded a large land and sea force and they were regarded as powerful rulers by foreign nations. In 1755 A.D., Ali Raja organised a big buccaneering expedition in close alliance with *Maharatra Angria* to revenge the Canarese Country. This expedition attacked Mangeshwar in the south of Mangalore, and landed troops to the north of Mangalore and carried off booty to the extent of not less than 410,000 pagodas. The islands in the Arabian Sea such as Laccadives were under the sway of the Ali Rajas. One of the Rajas, Ali Musa by name, is said to have conquered some of the Maldive Islands in 1183-1184 A. D., but it is a matter of record that in the beginning of the 16th century the King of Maldine was subordinate to the Ali Rajas and was paying tribute to them. When Hyder Ali, the usurper of Mysore, invaded Malabar (1766—1792 A.D) the Ali Rajas became his Lieutenants and helped him against the Native Rajas and the Honourable East India Company. After the invasion Ali Raja managed to get the Kolathiri domains for Hyder Ali, and it was then about the year 1766 A.D. the construction of a canal called the "Sultan's Canal" about two miles in length was undertaken and executed by the Ali Raja. This canal adjoins the Pazhuyangudi railway station. After the Ali Raja the Beebi became the head of the family and in spite of the general hostility existing towards the Honourable East India Company the Beebi was generously treated by the Company. Subsequently a treaty was made as a result of which she was placed on an equal footing with the other rulers. The agreement was drawn on the 28th October, 1796 A.D. when her dominions were leased to her and she consented to pay Rs. 15,000 per mensem, being the jusma on the houses, pirams, etc.; situated at and near Cannanore and on trade in Laccadive Islands, and on Jeum property of the said islands. The agreement merely favoured the collection of the land revenue, and as she was very punctual in her payments the lease was never revoked. In course of time the nature of the agreement was entirely forgotten and it was considered as an honourable treaty. Subsequently from 1824 A.D. the Beebi was regularly supplied with a guard of honour from the military station at Cannanore and she was very strict in exacting this homage to her rank.

The huge pile of whitewashed buildings, situated on the south beach opposite to the Fort St. Angelo which was ceded by the family to the Company in 1790 A.D. forms the palace buildings. The palace has a picturesque mosque close by, and has a majestic and magnificent appearance from the Fort

Maidan. There is a spacious Hall called "Mahal" attached to the palace. It was built by the order of Tippu Sultan who had contemplated a matrimonial alliance for his son with a lady of this family, which was subsequently abandoned since Tippu himself died soon.

The family has the unique honour of holding very extensive Inam lands and paying a large sum as annual revenue to Government for extensive non-Inam lands. There are two groups of Islands called Amindeevi Islands attached to South Kanara and Laccadive Islands attached to Malabar. The Islands of Amindeevi were ceded to the British Government some years ago and the Laccadive Islands were ceded to the British Government in the year 1908 on an annual payment of Rs. 23,001 to the family by way of pension. There is the second biggest light-house of the world on the Island of Minicoy, and this attracted the jealousy of the foreign powers and they tried their utmost to get possession of the island, but the family out of their loyalty to the British Government would not under any circumstances give it away to any foreign power, except the British Government.

The family is well known for its benevolence and charity. The hoary traditions of the family are observed even to this day. The family spends about Rs. 10,000 a year in offering to the poor rice and ghee thrice a month and rice kanjee every evening. The family maintains 40 mosques, and spends money in several other charitable ways. The family is a loyal supporter of the British Government ever since the conclusion of the peace treaty in 1795 A.D. In the recent rebellion in South Malabar the family stood by the British Government through thick and thin and faced all difficulties and appealed to the Moplahs by issuing pamphlets and notices requesting them not to participate in any outbreak.

The last holder of the "Stanam" was Ahamed Ali Raja who died on the 24th July, 1921. Lady Ayisha Beebi, the present head of the family, born in 1872, succeeded him on the 24th July, 1921 and is styled Sultan Ali Raja Ayisha Beebi of Cannanore. She married P.M. Koamya Elaya Sahib Bahadur, the son of the late Mussa Ali Raja of Cannanore, her own uncle, but unfortunately he died on the 1st September, 1922. He was a benevolent and charitable gentleman and his charity was so well known that the public bemoan his loss even to this day. Lady Ayisha Beebi ably managed the affairs of the estate with the assistance of her beloved husband until his death in September, 1922. Fortunately the union was blessed with a son, Ali Raja Hussain alias Imbichi Koyama Thangal, born in July, 1894. Soon after the death of her husband Lady Ayisha Beebi took the reins of Government into her hands and being wise, good-natured and generous by habit and temperament she is able to conduct the affairs of the estate remarkably well. She is ably assisted in all her efforts and endeavours by her brother, the second Raja, Ali Raja Abdurahiman alias Kunchi Koyama Thangal and her only son, Ali Raja Hussain, in the administration of the estate.

Ali Raja Hussain, the only son of Lady Ayisha Beebi, is a cultured gentleman and has acquired a good knowledge of English, Hindustani, Malayalam and Arabic. Ali Raja Hussain married a niece of his father and has two children by her.

The second Raja, Ali Raja Abdurahiman, the heir apparent, was born in 1881. He is also like his nephew a cultured nobleman and is well versed in English, Hindustani Malayalam and Arabic. He married a grand-daughter of his uncle.

Mr. J. A. Thorne, I.C.S., speaking at a Durbar held on the 25th October, 1923, when the birth-day honours were conferred on two of the recipients of Cannanore in recognition of their devoted loyalty to the British Government said:—"If any one were asked what Indian communities are most prominent in the past and present history of this ancient land, the answer would undoubtedly be Moplahs and Thiyas. From the day when the Nayar ancestor of the Arakkal family became a Muhammedan and this, we are told, was in the shadowy time of Cheraman Perumal, the Moplahs clustered round the Arakkal Palace in the old town increased and prospered and on several occasions have swayed the fortunes of Malabar. As we know them now they are a thriving community of landlords and traders acknowledging as their head, the Beebi who is a loyal supporter of the British Raj and including in their number many gentlemen of enlightenment and public spirit."

The speech embodies in itself an eloquent tribute to the illustrious family which we all hold to be well deserved.

The Zamindar of Seitur (Page 24)

Adi Rajah Abdurahaman *alias* Kunhi Koyamma Thangal (Page 27)

P. M. Abdul Kader *alias* Koymma Ellaya Sahib Bahadur (Page 27)

Adi Rajah Hussain *alias* Imbichi Koyamma Thangal (Page 27)

M. R. Ry. SANKARIAH NAIDU GARU.

M.R.Ry. Sankariah Naidu Garu, Zamindar of Chennappa Naicken Poliyam and Naduverapet, Thiruppapuliyur, South Arcot District, is a descendant of the merchant class of princes, and his pedigree could be traced as far back as the first beginnings of the Honourable East India Company in India. The family was very early distinguished as the merchant princes and trade was their profession. They carried on overseas trade and owned ships of their own. Their trade chiefly consisted of dealing in horses and elephants and the export of the same, besides precious metals such as silver and gold and other articles of value. They were trading also in wooden houses built by the Chinese in China and these houses were fitted up by Chinamen on their arrival in India, and the famous merchants sometimes lived in such houses. We also find in the District Gazetteer of the District of South Arcot on page 295 a descriptive account of this illustrious ancient house of merchants. From the same authority we learn that the family was the only wealthy one in those parts. They attracted weavers from other parts of the locality, provided them with houses to live in and also with tools and appliances to carry on their profession. The weavers lived under the protection of this illustrious family and the East India Company carried on trade with the materials prepared by the weavers.

The Forefathers of the Family.

The origin and the beginning of the family dates as far back as the days of one Devanayaka Naidu. Devanayaka Naidu died at Srirangam while worshipping God Sri Ranganath on the Vikunta Ekadesi day, which was considered by the Hindus as a day of salvation (and to depart from this world on the Vikunta Ekadasi day is to attain true salvation.) He left behind a son named Komarappa Naidu, in whose days the family rose to prominence and he could rightly be called the illustrious founder of the family. Komarappa Naidu, in commemoration of his deceased father erected a Dwajasthambam in gold at the Srirangam temple whereon there are inscriptions showing the name of Komarappa Naidu and his seat at Thiruppapuliyur. In his days the family prospered well and the trade of the family increased all round and Komarappa Naidu came to be called the merchant prince. He also rendered invaluable service to the East India Company.

Komarappa Naidu the Illustrious Founder.

The illustrious founder, Komarappa Naidu, was well known for his munificence and great opulence. He was a trustee from time immemorial to the several ancient temples at (1) Tiruvendipuram (2) Tirumanikudi (3) Thiruppapuliyur (4) Thagavalli (5) Thirthanagiri.

There is a traditional belief that the famous founder, the late Komarappa Naidu, was a great religious devotee. It is said of him that he used to go into the interior of the temple of Sree Devenath at Tiruvendipuram, where the idol of the great God stood and hold conversation with the Almighty God. The sound of the holy communion between Sri Devanath and the devout Komarappa Naidu used to be heard outside the temple door. Such is the response of God to the real devotees.

He was performing several religious and devotional functions in the temple which are continued even to this day by the present Zamindar, at a great cost. On all these occasions the poor were sumptuously fed.

Several stories are told about the devotion of Komarappa Naidu and his achievements through his devotion. It is said that a certain devotee of Vishnu was passing through Kalahasti, a place of pilgrimage for the followers of Siva. He being a devotee of Vishnu, set face against the temple of Siva and went past it. Soon after, through the omnipotent powers of the great God he lost both his eyes by the time he reached Tirupathi, whither he was bound. He sat there and prayed for years and as there was no restoration of his eyes he determined to end his life, and while he was on the point of doing so one of his eyes was restored him through a mysterious power and he was directed in a dream to go to Komarappa Naidu, a devotee who would restore the other. The man accordingly went to Thiruppapuliyur and implored at the feet of Komarappa Naidu for the restoration of his other eye. Komarappa Naidu pitied the man and poured over his eyes some holy water with which he bathed the Idol of the God, and soon after his second eye too, was restored. In memory of this event a religious function named the sight-giving function was begun to be celebrated and it is observed with great eclat even to this day. Since then Komarappa Naidu came to be popularly known as the "Sight-Giver Komarappa Naidu."

Komarappa Naidu was daily worshipping an Idol, the image of Krishna, which it is said was found by him, and ever since its finding Komarappa Naidu began to prosper day after day till he came to be one of the richest in the locality. He was also a recipient of several honours from the East India Company. After his death Komarappa Naidu came to be deified and on the bank of the Gadilam river is a temple with an effigy of Komarappa Naidu where many go to worship.

Sankariah Naidu.

Komarappa Naidu left behind an only son Sankariah Naidu who ardently took to the profession of a merchant and continued to enjoy the traditional prosperity of the family. He also observed and performed all the religious and devotional functions observed and performed by his father. He also carried on immense trade with the East India Company and was one of its trusted allies. He founded a colony for weavers and called it after his father "Komarappa Nayakkan Pettai," which is now the eastern suburb of Tiruvandipuram. Sankariah Naidu was a merchant prince and owned several ships of his own. There are streets named after him in Port Novo and Tiruppapuliyur. As aforesaid Sankariah Naidu was charitably disposed and has made several contributions to the temple at Tiruvendipuram and Tiruppapuliyur and excavated the shrine at Thagavali which had been buried by the sand. The Mantapam in the Thiruppapuliyur temple is the gift of his wife in which are engraved the figures of Sankariah Naidu and his wife, while there is also an inscription recording the gift.

The Famous Locket of King George III.

Sankariah Naidu was a rich Zamindar and several streets were named after him at Port Novo and he had also many sites at Madras where the present Madras Christian College stands. His firm was located near the Parry's Corner during the days of the East India Company and as aforesaid he was a faithful and trusted ally of the Honourable Company. In recognition of his services to the East India Company the company awarded him a medal. On one side there is a loom set with pearls and diamonds containing a lock of hair of King George III of England, the donor of the Emblem, and on the other the effigy of Sankariah Naidu. The medal is preserved even to this day by the present Zamindar, as it was considered a unique honour.

The Genealogy of the Family.

Devanayaka Naidu is the ancestor of the family and he left behind an only son Komarappa Naidu the great devotee and founder of the family. Komarappa Naidu in turn left behind an only son Sankariah Naidu. Sankariah Naidu had five sons Devanayaka Naidu, Ramaswami Naidu, Mandrasaskara Naidu, Balakrishna Naidu and Devanayaka Naidu. All the four brothers except the eldest died issueless, and the only son of the eldest brother was again named Devanayaka Naidu who was blessed with a son, who was named Komarappa Naidu. Komarappa Naidu had two sons, Devanayaka Naidu and Sankariah Naidu.

Sankariah Naidu, the Present Zamindar.

Sankariah Naidu succeeded to the Poliyam after his brother. Mr. Sankariah Naidu is a munificent gentleman and is very courteous to his guests. He has now completed his seventieth birthday and is yet hale and healthy. The arduous compiler of these volumes had an interesting audience with Mr. Sankariah Naidu on the 10th May, 1925, and he was glad to learn and find in Sankariah Naidu, a benevolent and charitable gentleman. Mr. Sankariah Naidu is continuing with great pleasure all the charities founded in the days of his forefathers and is liberally contributing to the upkeep of all the religious institutions founded in the days of his illustrious progenitor Komarappa Naidu. Charity is the motto of the family and the present Zamindar, Sankariah Naidu is spending too much of his money and time to the preservation of the traditional family motto 'Charity.' He himself even at this old age constantly goes on pilgrimage to sacred places and attends to all the religious functions in person to see that they are properly performed.

When the late Right Honourable E. S. Montagu with Lord Chelmsford, the Viceroy, visited Madras Mr. Sankariah Naidu was requested by the Secretary of State to be present at the garden party given by H. E. Lord Pentland, the then Governor of Madras. Mr. Sankariah Naidu attended the function in his Durbar dress, wearing the historic medal presented to his forefather Sankariah Naidu. Mr. Montagu, the Viceroy, and their Excellencies Lord and Lady Pentland evinced much interest in surveying the medal with utmost curiosity. The Zamindar in the interview granted to him requested the Secretary of State, the Right Honourable Edwin Samuel Montagu, to convey the information to His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor regarding the honour conferred upon one of the illustrious members of his family, for its unbounded loyalty to the British Crown, and his request was readily complied with.

THE KANGUNDI ZAMINDAR (NORTH ARCOT).

Long ago one of the ancestors of the family named Malli Naidu ruled over a small principality called Pyapili, in the vicinity of Gooty, on the south bank of the river Kistna, in the Indian Peninsula. In the year 1066 A. D. Kambi Naidu, the great grandson of Malli Naidu, for reasons unknown, migrated to the south, and first settled in a village called Gonuguru, where he built a small fort and a temple. Hunting was his chief amusement and one day while engaged in a hunt he was caught in a thicket where he was soon tired and exhausted and was overtaken by thirst. His dogs which were beating the bush found some water and having quenched their thirst searched throughout the bush and found their master at last. The servants finding the feet of the dogs wet concluded that there must be water near at hand, and went in search after it, led by the dogs. When they found water they were all very much pleased, and after relieving themselves of the thirst, they examined the locality carefully. Malli Naidu found that there was a hill inaccessible to others which would prove a good fort. So the next day he brought his people and built a strong fort and settled there. The hill with its fort was called Kangundi Durgam, and was constituted as his Capital. Soon the surrounding forests were cleared and the place was made habitable, and Kambi Naidu gathered a large number of adherents and retainers, who were to be his tenants and help him during the time of war, exactly after the manner of the feudal system that worked in England after its conquest by William the Duke of Normandy.

Early Conquests of Kambi Naidu.

Adjoining the Kangundi Durgam was a Poliyam consisting of a few villages and mud fort at the town of Tumsi, where Shingari Naidu, the Poliyagar, resided. As the interests of the two Poliyagars from their vicinity happened to clash, Kambi Naidu, to safeguard his own interests, had to attack Shingari Naidu, and in a pitched battle, Kambi Naidu put to death the whole family of Shingari Naidu. The newly conquered Poliyam was named Bita Seema or open country and was added to the original territories of Kambi Naidu. The power and the military forces of Kambi Naidu increased with the extension of his domains, and it made him to form schemes of greater conquests. He declared war on the neighbouring Poliyagars of little Kangundi, Betamangalam, Tayellore, Buddigunta and Jowadi Poliyams, and successively annexed them to his own dominion and built the forts of Tayellore, Buddigunta and Betamangalam. Thus after fully extending his dominion, and after a reign of sixty years Kambi Naidu passed away, leaving behind him three sons named Pedda Veerappa Naidu, Tirumal Naidu and Chinna Veerappa Naidu, of whom the eldest son Pedda Veerappa Naidu succeeded his father in the government. He closely followed the footsteps of his father in the administration of the country, and built several temples and forts, and bestowed many villages and maniyams or grants of land on Brahmins and other people. He passed away after a reign of fifty-three years, leaving behind him one son named Momurdi Chinna Veerappa Naidu.

The Visit of the Raja of Anagoondy.

Momurdi Chinna Veerappa Naidu, who succeeded his father, Pedda Veerappa Naidu, immediately began to improve his dominions. He built temples and bestowed lands on Brahmins and other people, and was of a religious disposition. During this period Venkatapathi Naidu, the Raja of Anagoondy, whose title was Narapathy or king of men with a large army arrived in the dominions of Chinna Veerappa, and summoned him to his presence. The Poliyagar immediately obeyed and he was graciously received by the Raja and during his stay in the Raja's camp an incident happened. The Raja's elephant got out of control and began to ravage the camp, and no one was able to approach it. Chinna Veerappa requested permission of the Raja to meet the animal and when it was granted he daringly approached the elephant, and with agility vaulted on his neck, and with a warhook conducted and guided him to his stand, to the no small joy and astonishment of the spectators. The Raja, highly pleased with the Poliyagar, bestowed honours with the ensigns of the state and permitted him to return to his capital and soon after the Raja also marched off to his own country. A few years later, the Poliyagar waged war on Suba Jugdeva Rayalu and was slain in the battle and some of the provinces fell into the hands of the enemy. During the reign of Veerappa Naidu, the grandson of Chinna Veerappa Naidu, many temples were built and tanks were sunk. Lands were bestowed on several of its people, and administration was improved to a large extent.

Veerappa Naidu was succeeded by his eldest son Varamula Naidu. During his regime a general named Khan Bahadur belonging to the Nizam of Hyderabad came to the Kangundi country in his route to make conquests below the Ghats. The Poliyagar assisted the Khan Bahadur with his troops and they together conquered Krishnagiri and the forts surrounding it, and the Jingee fort in the Carnatic. Khan Bahadur was very much pleased at the remarkable bravery of the Poliyagar and gave him several presents and in addition the fort below the Ghats called Simha Durga or the Lion fort, alias, Little Kangundy which once belonged to the

Poliyam. After the conquests were over Veeramala Naidu set himself to improve the Zamindari further. He built a new temple at the village of Vajalapuram, in the Biti Seema or open country and dedicated it to the God Gopala Krishna. He gave away villages as *Inams* to the Brahmins and bestowed grants of land on his subjects. Veeramala Naidu was succeeded by his son Venkatapathy Naidu who enjoyed a peaceful reign of sixty-two years. Venkatapathy Naidu was succeeded by Pedda Venkatapathy Naidu who also like his father was fortunate to enjoy a peaceful reign of sixty years. Pedda Venkatapathy Naidu had no issue and so the succession went over to his younger brother Varamurthi Naidu who also reigned for fifty-six years which period was marked with peace and plenty.

The Mahratta Invasion and after.

Everything went on smoothly till the days of Ramabhadra Naidu, the grandson of Varamurthi Naidu. During the regime of Ramabhadra Naidu two Mahratta chieftains, Venkajee and Sivaji Rao invaded Kangundi and demanded a huge sum from the Poliyagar by way of tribute. The Poliyagar pleaded poverty, but the Mahrattas would accept no explanation and so the Poliyagar was forced to cede the taluks of Betamangalam, Tayellore and Buddigunta on condition that the Mahrattas would not trouble him any more. After the Mahratta invasion Ramachandra Naidu ruled peacefully for several years and then left the throne to his son Pedda Womappa Naidu. Pedda Womappa Naidu died without issue and so the succession passed to his brother Venkatapathy Naidu. Venkatapathy Naidu was a pleasure-loving prince and so he left the management of the State into the hands of two Brahmins named Ponnappa and Gopauloo and spent his time after chase and other amusements. Then there came a time when the Brahmins grew more powerful and when Venkatapathy Naidu tried to check them they brought about his death by strategy. Venkatapathy Naidu left three sons, namely, Venkatagiri Naidu, Ramabhadra Naidu and Varamurthy Naidu. Venkatagiri Naidu, the eldest son, succeeded to the throne and soon after became powerful, he avenged the death of his father by putting to death the two Brahmins. The two Brahmins had left two sons Chinna Krishnayya and Pedda Krishnayya who, in turn, prevailed upon Ramabhadra Naidu and induced him to revolt against their elder brother Venkatagiri Naidu. Thereupon Ramabhadra Naidu proved treacherous and cut the throat of Venkatagiri Naidu, in the night while he was asleep. After Ramachandra Naidu his brother Varamurthi Naidu succeeded to the Government and as he was a man of great abilities he at once put down disorder and disloyalty and greatly extended his estates and brought large revenues to the coffers of the State. During his period the Nawab of Cuddapah attacked him, and finally as he was unsuccessful to subdue the Poliyagar, he concluded peace with him and returned to Cuddapah.

The second Invasion of the Nawab of Cuddapah.

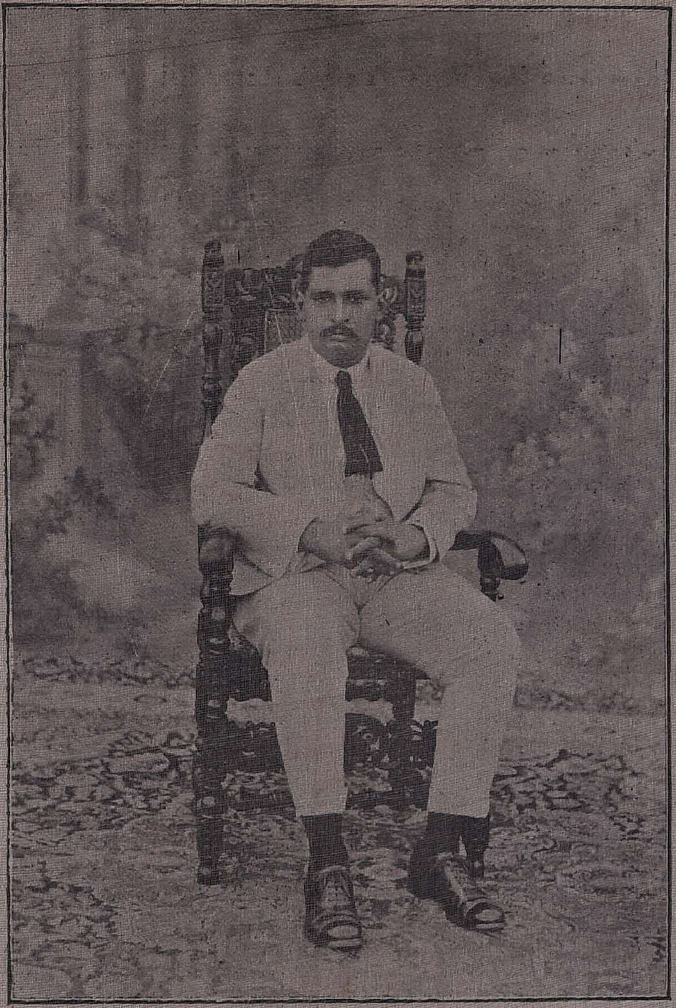
Venkatapathy Naidu, the eldest son of the late Poliyagar, succeeded to the Government and ruled the estate with tact and skill. He also gave his younger brother Wommappa Naidu several villages. During his days Abdul Majid Khan, Nawab of Cuddapah, invaded Kangundi with a large army and subdued the Poliyagar. Consequently the Poliyagar had to pay him a large tribute, and as Venkatapathy Naidu could not all at once raise a large sum, his brother, Wommappa Naidu, returned the villages granted to him. Additional revenues were also raised and then the Nawab went away satisfied.

The Invasion of the Nawab of Mysore.

After a period Veerappa Naidu, the second son of Venkatapathy Naidu, succeeded to the throne. Veerappa Naidu made a Brahmin named Chinna Narayanayya his Pradhan or prime minister and after a period there arose a dispute between the Poliyagar and the Pradhan. Thereupon the Pradhan fled to Mysore and sought the help of Hyder Ali Khan, the Nawab of Mysore, who espoused his cause and sent him back to Kangundi with an army under the command of Srinivasa Rao, who easily subdued the Poliyagar and took him and his whole family as prisoners and sent them to Seringapatam.

Critical Periods of Succession.

After the Mysore invasion and the confinement of the Poliyagar in Seringapatam, Chinna Narayanayya became the king-maker in Kangundi and he made Venkatagiri Naidu, a minor, and the youngest brother of Veerappa Naidu, the Poliyagar in preference to the second brother Venkatapathy Naidu, whom also he imprisoned, lest he should interfere with the Brahmin's free will. Soon after the Nawab of Mysore proceeded against Deccan and the Poliyagar with his Pradhan had to join him to assist him in his campaigns. The management of the Poliyam was left in the hands of Buchayya and Somayya, the nephews of the Chinna Narayanayya. While the Nawab's army was at Arcot, the young Poliyagar, Venkatagiri Naidu, was taken ill and he soon expired. Then again there was a dispute over the succession. The two Brahmins Buchayya and Somayya considered that all the nearest members of the family would prove hostile to them and so fetched a distant relation of the late Venkatagiri Naidu, by name Sitappa Naidu, whom they surnamed Chinna Venkatagiri Naidu and made him



The Zamindar of Kangundi (Page 31)

Mr. Sankariah Naidu Garu Zamindar of Chennap Naiken Poliyam (Page 29)

Shrimant Tara Raje (Page 39) (Sandur)

the Poliyagar. The chieftains of the State and several of the leading men were disgusted at the unlawful manner in which the successions to the throne were taking place and the irregular methods of the Government. So they all joined in a body and soon representations were made to Tippu Sultan, the ruler of Mysore. He ordered the restoration of Venkatapathy Naidu to the throne, but when the chieftains went to the prison to release him, unfortunately to their regret, he was already dead. Then they thought of his brother Venkatapathy Naidu, who was also a prisoner, and they released him and made him the lawful Poliyagar and the government of the State went to him. The Brahmin Buchayya was again made the Pradhan and this time he was quite loyal to Venkatapathy Naidu. There were several revolts and plots to displace Venkatapathy Naidu again but with the ability and skill of Buchayya every rising was put down and there was peace for some time.

The Honourable East India Company's Interference and the Permanent Settlement.

After a period Tippu Sultan placed a garrison in Kangundi to claim his suzerain power and consequently the Poliyagar fled. While affairs were taking place thus the Honourable East India Company was ascending the Ghats then. The Poliyagar represented the grievances to the Company who restored the estate to the Poliyagar Venkatapathy Naidu and Captain Alexander Read fixed an annual sum of 6,780 pagodas as *kist* to be paid to the Company to which the Poliyagar agreed. The Company also laid it that the Zamindari shall remain undivided for ever. Venktapathy Naidu felt himself now quite secure and interested himself in improving the internal administration. He was a just and merciful ruler and was a great friend of the poor. Soon after in 1817 one Ramabhadra Naidu, a *Dayadi* of the Poliyagar, filed a suit for partition, in the provincial court, Chittoor, but it was decided against him. During this period the Government wanted a survey of all alienated lands in the Zamindari but as the Zamindar questioned the right of the government to interfere, the whole affair was deferred. Venkatapathy Naidu, after a tranquil rule of several years, passed away in 1823 leaving behind three sons, Ramappa Naidu, Jadappa Naidu and Venkatagiri Naidu. The Government recognised Ramappa Naidu, the eldest son as the Zamindar. The third brother, Venkatagiri Naidu, proved troublesome and filed a suit for one-third share of the estate. The suit was dismissed on the plea that the estate was never a divisible one and in the appeal, the High Court also confirmed the decision of the lower court. Ramappa Naidu was exceedingly good and was a great Sanskrit scholar. He left behind him two sons, Subbaraya Naidu and Venkatapathy Naidu. Subbaraya Naidu assumed the management of the estate after his father, but as he was given to luxury he left the management of the State into the hands of the subordinates who ruled the State very badly. Oppression was the order of the day and everything ran into confusion. During his lifetime the Inams were enfranchised by the Government and on pre-settlement Inams Government claimed reversionary rights. The Zamindar had the reversionary right over the post-settlement Inams and quit rent was permitted to be collected by the Zamindar for remission. The Poliyagar had no issue, but had an illegitimate son named Munivenkataramappa, through his concubine Pillakka and the Poliyagar tried his best to get this bastard son to be recognised as his heir. To effect this he got him married and also prevailed upon his own wives and his brother Venkatapathy Naidu to sign an agreement to recognise Munivenkataramappa as the next heir, and this agreement or *Sammatha Patram* was signed in the year 1864. This was objected to by prominent members of the Poliyagar and prominent among them was Vijaya Veera Venkatapathy Naidu, who sent up a petition to His Excellency the Governor in Council about the affairs of the State and requested His Excellency the Governor not to recognise this bastard son as the successor to the Zamindari. Soon Subbaraya Naidu died and his brother Venkatapathy Naidu wrote to the Collector of North Arcot to recognise the bastard Munivenkataramappa as the legal heir to the estates, but the Collector, held a detailed enquiry and with the sanction of the Government he set aside Munivenkataramappa and made Venkatapathy Naidu, the brother of Subbaraya Naidu, as the Zamindar.

A Costly Litigation.

A few years after Venkatapathy Naidu was made the Zamindar, Munivenkataramappa attained majority and was pursuaded by his friends to file a suit against Venkatapathy Naidu, to recover the whole estate as the legitimate heir to the Zamindari. To this claim Venkatapathy Naidu replied saying that Pillakka was only a concubine of a caste which has no marital relations with the Poliyagar and that he signed the agreement deed without consideration and on pressure and for fear lest the Zamindari be confiscated if there be no male descendant. Finally the suit was compromised on condition that a third of all movable properties with a cash of Rs. 20,000 be given away to Munivenkataramappa. Before this compromise was given effect to, Munivenkataramappa died, leaving behind his widow Madamma and a daughter Thimmajamma. Madamma attempted to execute the compromise degree obtained by her husband. Venkatapathy Naidu objected to this on the ground that a widow was not the lineal descendant and as the Zamindari was an impartible one,

it could not be divided, but this plea was over-ruled by the High Court and Venkatapathy Naidu carried an appeal to the Privy Council. Before the appeal was disposed of by the Privy Council Madamma and Venkatapathy Naidu agreed to a compromise on the following conditions:

1. That Venkatapathy Naidu should deliver possession to Madamma and her daughter of the villages yielding an income of Rs. 5,000 per annum valued at Rs. 80,000;

2. That out of the villages, Madamma should enjoy villages yielding an income of Rs. 2000, with powers of gift, sale etc.; Madamma's minor daughter should enjoy from son to grandson and so on the remaining villages yielding an income of Rs. 3,000 with full powers of alienation;

3. That Madamma and her daughter Thimmajamma and heirs should enjoy the villages thus allotted to them free from payment of peishkist and that Venkatapathy Naidu and his heirs should bear such peishkist;

4. That Venkatapathy Naidu should pay Rs. 2,500 per annum in cash to Madamma Garu alone during her life time;

5. That he should pay her and her minor daughter a sum of Rs. 57,500 in cash.

In further agreement to this Madamma filed a *Rajinama* in the court in full satisfaction of all her claims and the settlement was given effect to in the year 1882, and thus came to an end the costly litigation, the outcome of an imprudent act of the Poliyagar Subbaraya Naidu.

After the conclusion of the litigation Venkatapathy Naidu directed his attention to the improvement of the estate. He was a clever administrator and took a real interest in the estate.

It was during this period that the boundaries of the Poliyam were fixed. Railways were introduced into his State. Venkatapathy Naidu was very pious and charitable in disposition. He started an Annadhana Chatram in Kuppam during the great famine time of 1877, and the Chatram continues to feed the poor even to this day. Irrigation resources were enhanced by his sinking two big tanks, one in Sora Kayalnatham and the other in Mallaxumta. Had it not been for the costly litigation he would have effected greater improvements. He died in 1883 leaving two sons, Ramappa Naidu and Subbaraju Naidu, both minors.

DAYS OF PROSPERITY.

The Court of Wards took over the management of the estate as both the heirs were minors and in 1890 Ramappa Naidu, the eldest son took up the reins of administration. He did not live long and died ten months after he assumed charge of the estate. His brother Subbaraju Naidu was recognised by the Government as the lawful successor. The Court of Wards had paved the way for a successful administration and so Subbaraju Naidu began his regime under very favourable circumstances. Hitherto the system of collecting the revenues in the Zamindari was through a middleman, who was like the chief tenant. He put a stop to this system and dealt directly with his tenants. The tenants were granted occupying rights which was not the custom hitherto. The rents on lands were permanently fixed and permanent pattas were granted to tenants in almost all villages. Owing to his efficient administration the annual gross income of the estate rose from about Rs. 75,000 to Rs. 110,000. He was an engineer too and built an excellent palace in Kuppam at a cost of two lakhs of rupees which he called the Pannaga Sayana Palace. No professional Engineer assisted him in the construction of the palace and everything was after his own design. Excellent roads connecting important trade centres were constructed during his period. He got his lands explored by mining experts. He introduced Europeans into his office which greatly improved the efficient management of the estate. He took considerable interest in preserving the ancient monuments, and he also founded a graveyard near Kangundi.

A SECOND LITIGATION DISPUTE.

We have stated elsewhere that in 1882 there was a settlement entered into by Madamma, the widow of the late bastard son Muni Venkatramappa and the Zamindar Venkatapathy Naidu. Madamma died three years afterwards and her property was managed by the Court of Wards as her daughter Thimmajamma was only a minor seven years old. In 1900 Thimmajamma attained majority and filed a suit alleging that she had a right for all her father's properties, that her mother's compromise was not binding on her, and that it was fraudulently drawn. The worry and anxiety over this illegitimate suit accelerated the death of Subbaraju Naidu. However, the suit which was heard in the District Court of North Arcot was dismissed on the ground that she was not the legal representative and that there was no subsisting decree on the date of application which she may be allowed to execute. An appeal against this order too was dismissed by the High Court. Afterwards Thimmajamma filed an original suit which was also dismissed with costs by the District Court and on appeal, by the High Court also. Subbaraju Naidu lived to hear the news of the dismissal of the suit, but as his health had sufficiently failed, he passed away soon after, on the 11th July 1910. He left behind a son named Venkatapathy Naidu, who was only thirteen years of age when Subbaraju Naidu died, and so the Court of Wards took over the management again.

The full title of the Zamindar is Valmiki Gothra Pavithralayiva, Mannala Vamshadi, Paripurna Chandrahayiva Guthi Hannibharagand, Konkanadesh Vibhasankulaina, Basavasankara Birudankithalaina, Anjanamalai Satanadhee Swaralama Melupatam Kambinayam Javvaji.

SREE RAJAH VENKATA RAMAYYA APPARAO BAHADUR GARU, NUZVID (KISTNA DISTRICT).

M.R.Ry. TAHAVIR O. JALADAT Sree Rajah Venkata Ramayya Apparao Bahadur Garu is the elder son of the late M.R.Ry. TAHAVAR O. JALADAT DASTAGAHA Sree Rajah Venkata Narasimha Apparao Bahadur Garu, who owned the Mirzapuram Zamindari, which constitutes 1/6th share in the big Nuzvid Zamindari. The latter died in May, 1911. He left two sons Venkata Ramayya Apparao Bahadur Zamindar Garu and Sobhanadri Apparao Bahadur Zamindar Garu. Immediately after their father's death, they were taken to Madras and were put in the Newington College. They received their education in that college for 5 years and during this period, Venkata Ramayya Apparao Bahadur Garu received a very sound education and by his perseverance and exemplary conduct, he won the affection of his teachers and the officials in whose charge he was placed. He was discharged from the college in March, 1916, and in October, 1916, the estate which was till then under the management of the Court of Wards was handed over to him. Though he was then only 21 years old, he evinced a good deal of interest and tact in the management of his estate, and along with his younger brother, he began to manage the estate on the lines chalked out for him during the management of the Court of Wards. Just before he assumed charge of the Mirzapuram estate, the two brothers got half share in the Medur estate and a one-third share in the Nidodavole estate by virtue of a litigation which was started by his father and which was pending in the Privy Council at the time of his death.

2. In the year 1918, the two brothers partitioned their family properties and Venkata Ramayya Apparao Bahadur Garu has become the registered holder of the permanently settled estates called Mirzapuram, Viravalli, Nidamarru, Bhimavole and Pedagonnur. From 1918 to 1920 he settled a good deal of litigation with his tenants by amicable methods and effected considerable improvements in his estate.

3. In the year 1919 when the price of paddy had risen very high and the Sowcars began to make the the largest profits from the rice trade and in consequence the Government asssumed control over the trade. Venkata Ramayya Apparao Bahadur Garu took upon himself the responsibility of distributing rice for the price at which it was offered to him by the Government officials in the Nuzvid villages and has thus earned the undying gratitude of the starving people, specially of the depressed classes. He maintained his accounts in the trade admirably well and did not care to make out any profit from the trade, but only looked to the comfort and well being of the people.

4. In 1920 finding that the residents of Nuzvid were put to a lot of inconvenience for want of proper conveyance between Nuzvid and Nuzvid Railway Station, he started motor service between Nuzvid and Nuzvid Railway Station and managed it admirably well. In the next year he started service on the Ellore-Chintalapudi Road and Ellore-Jangareddigudem Road. He always contented himself with the minimum profit and was only anxious to do acts of public utility. With the small profits he earned from this business he commenced feeding all the deserving poor people in Nuzvid daily, in front of his palace, and more than 70 people are fed daily even up to date, though in 1924 he transferred the motor service to somebody else, as he found that the other business in his hand did not permit him to manage the bus service satisfactorily.

5. In the year 1921 he occupied a nominated membership in the District Board, Kistna, which was offered to him in view of the very keen interest which he evinced for the public good. In the year 1922, at the request of the people of Nuzvid he chose to accept the President's office of the Union Board at Nuzvid and during the short period he was in charge of the Union between the years 1922 and 1924 he improved the condition of the roads and drinking water wells in the Union and at his own expense provided facilities for drinking water for the depressed classes. His popularity and charitable disposition attracted the notice of several leading men in the District, and there was a cry from the people that he should become the President of the District Board, Kistna. In April, 1924, the Government granted the Kistna District Board the privilege of electing its President and Venkata Ramayya Apparao Bahadur Garu became its first elected President in May, 1924. His election was received with very great satisfaction by the people in the District and since he has been in charge of the Board, he has devoted himself vigorously to impart a higher standard of efficiency in the management of the Board. Unfortunately in May, 1925, some of the main roads in the District were washed away by cyclone and floods but by his undaunted energy and perseverance, he obtained promise of grants from the Government and in a very short time he managed to put the roads in proper order. Just immediately after the country was devasted by heavy gales, storm and flood and the roads were covered by the fallen trees, he inspected all the roads and took expeditious steps to put the roads in proper order for traffic. He was touched with great sympathy when he saw that several houses were

levelled to the ground and that many thousands were in a most distressed condition, and immediately he gave relief to them by granting them materials and money for restoring houses from his own estate. He also obtained liberal grants from the District Board, distributed them to the poor and thus afforded considerable relief. Almost all the roads in the District both in the Kistna and West Godavari portions have been greatly improved during his administration. Several bridges have been built and some more are under construction. The following are the important bridges which were undertaken and already completed during his regime :—

(a) *Thammileru Bridge.*—The cost of the bridge amounted to Rs. 70,000 (This connects the Revenue Districts of Kistna and West Godavari. In times of flood, the whole traffic has to be suspended at this place. Now the bridge is almost complete, the difficulties are overcome and it is sure to prove a boon to the travelling public).

(b) *Two road-dams on Masulipatam.*—Tiruvur Road over Budameru drains—were completed at a cost of Rs. 71,640.

On rainy days all the surplus from the Budameru river and the drainage water flow over the road at these places so much so, that the traffic is rendered most difficult. In attempting to cross these water currents several lives of men and cattle are lost. These road-dams have since been completed and the public have been relieved of the trouble and anxiety.

He obtained liberal grants from Government and improved the road communications and drinking water supply also in the villages. He takes great delight in inspection and is always out of home and in spite of the heavy expenses which he is put to, he has declined to accept any travelling expenses from the Board.

6. He started High Schools at Tadanki, Gannavaram, Kaikalur, and Avanigadda and Middle Schools at Tiruvur, Pamarru, and Mylavaram before the 20th October 1926. He has also proposed the opening of Middle Schools at Chintalapudi, Tallapudi and Mogaltur. He has been taking active interest not only for the material progress of the country but also for diffusing education in the backward tracts and in all parts of the District. During his regime the District Board sanctioned a liberal scale of pay to its establishment including teachers. The District Board and the Government have already greatly appreciated his service to the public.

7. It was due to his influence that Bezwada is made the head quarters of the Andhra University and the District Board made a grant of Rs. 3,00,000 for it. He is anxious to start technological Colleges at Bezwada and utilise the grant made by the Board for this purpose. The subject is under correspondence with the University and the Government.

8. The ryots in his estate are very much satisfied with his close attention to their wants. He has recently installed a pumping engine for the supply of water from the Budameru River for the irrigation of lands in 3 villages of his estate.

9. As a Zemindar, he is also very munificent in making large donations for public and charitable purpose.

10. At the request of the tenant population and other important leaders in the District he stood as a candidate for one of the two non-Muhammadan Rural Constituency seats for the Kistna District for the Madras Legislative Council. His name is so popular and his merit is so much recognised that people of all castes and creed evinced much enthusiasm and zeal and voted for him. He topped the poll in the elections. The people have the greatest confidence in his uprightness and justice and his assurance that he will always have the good of the country and the people at heart is received with satisfaction. Though he is still very young and is born a Zamindar, he has stripped himself of all conservatism and is easily accessible to the public, his tenants, his officials and servants. He is anxious to hear everybody patiently and impart justice to the rich and poor alike.

Sri Rajah Venkataramiah Appa Rao Bahadur Guru
(Page 35)

Sri Rajah Sobhandri Appa Rao Bahadur Guru
(Page 37)

SREE RAJAH SOBHANDRI APPA RAO BAHADUR NUZVID (KISTNA DISTRICT.)

Of all the families of territorial magnates or landlords of Kistna district, the most romantic and interesting, with its varied fortunes, fluctuating ups and downs in its history, is the ancient Nuzvid family. During the early part of the 16th century when there were several kingdoms in South India, each quarrelling with another for power and supremacy, Meka Basavanna, the first member of this family, of whom any information is available, an intrepid soldier of fortune, settled himself on the left banks of the River Kistna. He built a strong fortress near Golapalle. He was succeeded by his son Timmanna, his grandson Basvanna, and his great grandson Konappa whose descendants have ever after continued the line. The following genealogical trees illustrate the pedigree of the whole family traced down to the present Zamindars.

Meka Basavanna.
|
Timmanna.
|
Basavanna.
|
Konappa.
|
The eldest died before him. — Venkatadri. — X — Bapanna.

Venkatadri.
|
Raja Vijaya Bahadur Appa Rao (Appanna Vijaya).
|
Venkatadri.
|
Narasimha (Hazar Mansubadar). — Sobhandri.

For purposes of convenience the whole history can be divided roughly into four parts. The first part ends with the death of Sobhanadri, issueless, when there is also an end of direct succession. After Sobhanadri a collateral succession begins; A descendant of Bapanna, the fourth son of Konappa namely Appanna succeeded to the Zamindari. With him begins the second part of the history of the pedigree which is illustrated by the following tree.

Appanna.................................(his brother) Ramachandra Narasimha Apparao.

Venkatadri (a descendant of the third son of Konappa marked "X" in 1st tree)...................Jagannatha, died in 1756.

Venkatadri (a descendant of Ramachandra) died in 1771...................Narasimha Apparao (Narayya the rebel).

With Narasimha Appa Rao begins the third part which terminates with the division of the Zamindary into two parts by the East India Company in 1802—Nidadavole and Nuzvid.

Narasimha Apparao.

Pedda Venkamma = Chinna Venkamma.

Pedda Venkamma:
|
Venkata Narasimha.
|
Narayya the elder died in 1864. = Chimnammarao and Papammarao. (adopted Narayya the younger of Medur estate).

Chinna Venkamma:
|
Ramachandra. — Narasimha.

Ramachandra.
|
Sobhanadri died in 1868.
|
Narayana died in 1877. — Venkata Narasimha.

Narasimha.
|
Simhadri. — Venkatadri. (present Zamindar of Chevendra).

Medur Estate.

Venkataramiah
|
Narayya the younger died in 1895.

Rangayya
|
Venkatadri.

Venkata Narasimha.
|
Meka Venkata Ramiah Apparao. — Sobhandri

The chief characteristic of the first period is that the owners of the Zamindari were only in theory feudatories of the Nizam dependent or independent according to the strength at its extremities of the central government. Originally the estate was held on the tenure of military service and in the nature of a raj or principality. The most important personage of the first period is Appanna the Vijaya or victorious who greatly advanced the fortunes of his family. In 1667, the king of Golconda gave him the titles of Tahavir, Vazulalt and Dastagaha along with the privilege of beating a kettle drum and of using a palanquin with a fringe. He also received the titles of Rajah Bahadur and Apparao which last title has been ever since used by the members of the family. He built a fort at Nuzvid which means the place of the oil seed plants. According to legend he chose that place because one day when he was riding towards that spot of gingelly oil seeds he saw a feeble goat defending itself against the attacks of a wolf. So he thought that the fort should be built there. The next important person worthy of mention is Narasimha who received the title of Tin Hazar Mansubda which denotes that he held his estates on the feudal tenure of leading 3,000 men to the standard of his suzerain. He was famous as a wise and charitable ruler whose name is

praised and preserved by the poem named Indumathi Parayanam. He was succeeded by his younger brother Sobhandri. Both the brothers died issueless and so the estates passed to a collateral descendant of the fourth son of Konappa.

Thus with Appana and Ramachendra the second period of the history begins. During the time of Ramachendra, Asof Jah Subahdar of Deccan marched into this country to restore the central authority. Ramachendra heroically resisted and stood a siege of three months and in the end succumbed and was slain by the famous Fouzdar Rustam Ali Khan who kept the estate under management for 12 years. But afterwards they rented the lands. During the second part of the history the family gained back its territories, thanks to the services of Kamandana Appaya and Rayanna who had been dependent on Nuzvid Zamindars and later on serving under the Mohammedans as Revenue officials. They exerted their influence and thus the persons named in the second genealogical tree obtained Zamindary Sanads from the Nizam's government. Thus the Kamadana men were the Zamindar makers of the period. Jaganatha quarrelled with them, as a result of which the French under the leadership of M. de Bussi, being invited for help by the Kamadana men, offered battle and carried him as their prisoner. He died in the camp of M. de Bussi before Kulberga in 1756. The French kept the estates for some time but later on the Kamadana men installed one Venkatadri as Zamindar. He was succeeded by his brother Narasimha Appa Rao the rebel.

With Narasimha Apparao begins the third phase of the history when the Nizam ceded in 1766 the Kondapallee and Ellore circars to the East India Company. With the advent of the British the whole character of the Zamindary changed itself. There was no military character about their tenure. They were reduced into mere landlords paying certain revenue to the government. It was during this period that the Zamindary was split up into two estates by the East India Company and each given to Venkata Narasimha and his ever turbulent brother Ramachendra. This division formed the ground on which later on the Privy Council pronounced judgment that the Zamindary was not impartible in its nature but it was governed by the ordinary Hindu law of inheritance.

Narasimha Appa Rao had two wives, Pedda Venkamma and Chinna Venkamma. By Pedda Venkamma he had a son called Venkata Narasimha. By Chinna Venkamma he had Ramachandra and Narasimha. Unable and unwilling to pay the revenue to the British he began to assert his independence and defy the English but in vain. The Government of Madras in 1784 proclaimed him as a rebel and recognised his son Venkata Narasimha as the Zamindar. The father from his jungles near Badrachalam was giving trouble to the Government of the estate. In the end the Company's officers wearied by the disturbances of Narasimha Appa Rao came to a compromise with him and allowed him to remain with his son. Chinna Venkamma was leading a faction against her step son and even drove Venkata Narasimha to jungles. But he was backed up by the British and reinstated in office. In 1789 Narasimha the rebel died. But Ramachandra his brother was often giving trouble. So with the object of putting an end to the trouble the estate was divided into two halves by the Company in 1802 and one given to Ramachandra. The defect of this arrangement was Narasimha was left out. Later on he began to agitate the matter in courts of law and in the end got only maintenance. But finally by compromise his sons got some villages in 1840.

We now came to the fourth stage of the history which is characterised not by warlike deeds of valour as of old but by a series of litigation all carried to their full length up to the Privy Council which finally by their pronouncement dismembered the ancient impartible great Zamindary into several partible estates subject to the ordinary Hindu law of inheritance. In 1868 Sobhanadri Appa Rao died leaving six sons behind him. The Government recognised only the eldest son Narayana Appa Rao as Zamindar. The fourth son Venkata Narasimha Sobhandri petitioned to the Government in 1868 to give his 1/6 share of the estate for which he got the reply that the estate was impartible. So he commenced his suit in 1871 against Narayana for recovery of his 1/6 share. The High Court held that the estate did not lose its impartibility by the Sanad of 1802 and so he was not entitled to any share. The matter was taken to the Privy Council which reversed the decision of the High Court holding that the estate was partible since 1802 and awarded immense mesne profits against the Court of Wards who had now taken charge of the Zamindary during the minority of the three sons of Narayana who died pending the appeal referred to above. Thus in 1879 the Nuzvid Zamindary was divided into six parts.

When we come to the Nidadavolu estate Venkata Narasimha adopted his nephew Narayya who succeeded him. He died issueless leaving behind him two widows, Chinnna Rao and Papamma Rao and a will authorising both of them to adopt a boy to him. After the death of Chinnama Rao Papamma Rao alone adopted one Narayya the younger the only son of Venkataramiah, the Zamindar of Medur estate. He died as a minor unmarried. So Papamma Rao inherited the whole estate—even the Medur estate. But Venkayamma the natural mother of Narayya the younger attacked the adoption as invalid and sued to recover the Medur estate. The High Court held that the adoption was valid and that the joint power given to adopt was valid in law. Pending the suit both the widows died and

reversioners of the deceased husbands of both the widows, Parthasarathi Appa Rao on the one hand and Rangayya and Venkatanarasimha on the other, fought out to the end till at last the Privy Council held that the adoption of Narayya the younger by Papamma Rao was invalid because, on the death of Chinnamma Rao, the joint power of adoption given in the will, came to an end and Papamma Rao alone afterwards could not adopt. The result of the decision was that the Medur estate was divided between Rangayya Apparao and Venkata Narasimha alone. Both of them died pending the appeal, the former leaving behind him an only son Venkatadri and the latter leaving behind him two sons, Meka Venkata Narasimha and Sobhanadri the present Zamindars. Thus Sobhanadri has got 1/4 share of the Medur estate. He has memorialised to the Government to pass an act of legislature making his estates impartible.

HISTORY OF SANDUR STATE.

Sandur is a Native State situated in the Deccan, near Bellary. Its area is about 160 sq. miles. It is surrounded by a cordon of hills, which completely isolate it from the surrounding district. In shape the valley is elliptical with a direction to the south-east. It is entered by three principal natural gateways in the north, north-east and west, and by one pass in the south. The prevailing rock met with is a chloritic slate, often highly impregnated with oxide of iron. Manganese and iron ores form the principal minerals that are easily excavated. The prevailing soil in the valley is a rich heavy red loam, interspersed here and there with patches of cotton soil. Extensive beds of lava conglomerate, form the characteristic features of the ascent to Shree Komaraswami pagoda and Ramandrug range. Ramandrug plateau is a sanitarium for the district, and has a salubrious climate. There are many other plateaus which have an equally salubrious climate, and picturesque natural scenery.

This State is interesting as the domain of one of the most ancient of the Mahratta families. The Ghorpade family is said to have been identical with the well-known Bhonslas of Satara, from whom the famous chief Shree Chatrapathi Shivaji Maharaj was descended. They greatly distinguished themselves under his son Sambhaji and Shahu Maharaj. According to the family legend, the ancestor of the present family acquired the title of 'Ghorpade' from having been the first to scale an impregnable fort like a Ghorpad or Iguana, and taking his party up.

Maloji Rao alias Mahadaji, its founder, was an officer in the army of Bijapur. He had three sons, Santaji Rao, Bhairoji Rao and Maloji Rao, all of whom served under Sivaji Maharaj. The eldest of these, Santaji Rao Ghorpade, was the 'terror of the Moghul detachments for seven years.' He held the jaghir of Kapsi in Kolhapur State, and was accorded the title of 'Senapathi.' Maloji Rao, the third son, was given the title of Amirul-umra, and the jaghir of Datwad in Kolhapur State. The second son, Bhairoji Rao, was the father of Siddoji Rao, who took Sandur from the Poliyagar of Jaramali. He was given the hereditary titles of Hindu Rao and Mamlakatmadar. Siddoji Rao had four sons, of whom the eldest was Morari Rao who followed his father as the Ruler of Sandur, and became celebrated in history as the 'Tiger of Gooty.' In the campaign of 1775-76, Haider Ali annexed the whole of Morari Rao's territory, including Sandur, and began the erection of a fort at Krishnanagar, which remains to this day in Sandur. Morari Rao had two sons both of whom died in childhood. Before his death, he adopted Siva Rao, the son of a distant cousin named Yeshwant Rao. This Siva Rao fell about 1785 in a futile attempt to drive Tippu's garrison out of Sandur, and was succeeded by his son, Siddoji Rao, then two years old. Siddoji Rao was put under the guardianship of his uncle, Venkat Rao, who, in 1790, on his ward's behalf attacked and drove Tippu's garrison out of Sandur, and gained possession of the place. After the peace with Tippu in 1792, the Ghorpades were allowed to retain Sandur as part of their ancient inheritance. Siddoji Rao died in 1796, and his widow adopted Siva Rao, son of Khande Rao. About this time, the Peshwa, Baji Rao, under the pretence that the principality of Sandur was his, granted a sanad to the above mentioned Yeshwant Rao. But when Yeshwant Rao's son, Narasinga Rao proceeded to take possession of Sandur, he was easily bought off, and soon after Yeshwant Rao resigned his pretensions. Siva Rao thus continued to hold the State till the formation of the great Maharatta confederacy. When Sandur was reduced, its Ruler, Siva Rao, surrendered it to the British in 1817, in lieu of a jaghir at Hirehal. After the close of the great Mahratta War, which broke up the Peshwa's suzerainty, Col. Munro restored Sandur to Siva Rao, giving him a Sanad, which invested him with sovereign powers. The death of Siva Rao took place in 1840, when he was succeeded by one of his nephews, Venkat Rao, whom he adopted. After the death of Venkat Rao, in 1861, he was succeeded by his son, Siva Shanmukha Rao, who was invested with full powers in

1863. When Siva Shanmukha Rao died issueless in 1878, he was succeeded by his brother, Rao Saheb Ramachandra Vittal Rao, the father of the present Ruler of Sandur. Rao Saheb Ramachandra Vittal was made a C. I. E. In 1892 he died, and was succeeded by the present Ruler, Shrimant Venkat Rao Rao Saheb Hindu Rao Ghorpade, Mamlakatmadar, Senapathi, Raja of Sandur.

The present Ruler of Sandur, Shrimant Venkat Rao Rao Saheb, was born on the 10th July, 1892. For some years before the present Ruler's succession to Sandur, his uncle Shrimant Maloji Rao Bala Saheb managed the State under the designation of Administrator. The present Ruler of Sandur State received English education under able professors, and also received military training in the British army. On 7th June 1908 he was married to Shreemanth Sowbhagyavathi Tara Raje, the last daughter of H. H. Shrimant Shahji Raja Saheb, the late Rajah Saheb of Akalkot. He was invested with full powers in 1913. Shrimant Tara Raje, Rani Saheb, who passed away on the 25th July, 1925, was a great help to the present Ruler in the work of administration. It was at her instance that the town is fitted up with all the amenities of city life, such as electric lights, water works and a public park. A High School has been opened, and it is called Tara High School, after the name of the late lamented Rani Saheba, whose death has resulted in an irreparable loss to the State. Personally she was gifted with a remarkable intelligence, and a taste for fine arts. Her paintings and needle work were appreciated in the recent Wembley Exhibition. She was an unerring shot, and the stuffed bodies of the numerous animals that she shot, which decorate the palace, serve as mementoes of her skill in marksmanship. She bore the Raja Saheb many children, of whom the eldest was a daughter named Shrimant Leila Raje, who unfortunately succumbed to a brief illness in her childhood. This sad event took place on the 22nd February, 1914. The younger daughter, Shrimant Sushila Raje is now running in her fourteenth year. She was born on the 4th November, 1912. She is receiving her education under V. Narasimha Rao, M.A., L.T., who is the headmaster of the Tara High School, Sandur.

The Rajah Saheb is taking great interest in promoting the economic prosperity of his subjects by starting an Agricultural Bank. Proposals are also afoot to make Elementary education free and compulsory as in other States. He is at great pains in strengthening the finances of the State by exploiting its minerals and in taking advantage of its industrial possibilities.

M.R.RY. TIRUGNANA SAMBANDAR, ZAMINDAR OF VETTAVALAM.

Vettavalam is an ancient impartible Zamindary in the Tiruvannamalai Taluk of the North Arcot District. Its annual revenue is about Rs. 30,000 and the Peshkisth payable to Government is Rs. 70. It consists of 130 villages in Tiruvannamalai, Tirukoilur and Villupuram. About 500 years ago during the reign of Karnatic kings the villages between Madura and Tirupathi were very often visited by highway robbers and bandits. The Royer king at that time, to put down the robberies and to maintain an efficient police machinery, to secure the peace and tranquility of his subjects, created many Zamindaries, the Zamindars of which managed the estates and looked to the safety of the subjects. Thus Zamindaries came into existence in South India. One of them is Vettavalam. It is said that the Royer king employed the services of the ancestors of the present Zamindar of Vettavalam to look to the pooja of Tiruvannamalai and to look after the safety of villages round about there. For doing that they got the Zaghir and they were appointed as guards over 500 villages in Jinji, Tiruvannamalai etc. During the time of Karnatic kings the Zamindar paid a Peshkisth of Rs. 4,000 besides a Nazarna of Rs. 1,000 annually. He also possessed the Kavalli jurisdiction over 377 Sirkar villages amounting in grain and land to 3,000 pagodas annually. It is said that the Zamindar of Vettavalam did invaluable services to the British against the French during the Karnatic wars. After the advent of the British in 1802 for sometime the palayam was resumed by the Government and a pension of 15 per cent of the revenue was being given in 1806 to the Zamindar. But later on the Government handed over the estates to the Zamindar in 1816 without Zamindari Sanads. The Kavalli allowance was cut off since the British did not want the assistance of the Zamindar for preserving internal peace and tranquility of the subjects.

The Zamindars of Vettavalam trace their pedigree to Vasantha Vanadha Raya Bandariyar. He was succeeded by his son Periyar, next by his grandson Ponniyar. The successor of Ponniyar was Arunachala Vasantha Krishna Vadadha Raya

The Zamindar in 1814 was his son Thandava Raya Bandariyar. As he had no male issue he adopted his younger brother Namasivaya Bandariyar who administered the estate from 1814 to 1830. His adopted son was then in charge of the estate from 1830 to 1855. Then Arunachala Vasantha, the second grandson of Sakarayya, the son of the founder of the family who was adopted, administered the estate from 1855 to 1869. He adopted his nephew A. V. K. V. Appasami Bandariyar who lived till 1883 when his brother Sri A. V. K. V. Tirugnana Sambanda Bandariyar Avl. was declared Zamindar.

During the time of Arunachala Vasantha Krishna and his successor A. V. K. V. Appasami Bandariyar, the Gosha system that was obtaining among the ladies was put to an end. The Vadalur Enlightenment Sabha started by Ramalinga Swami was patronised by them by giving money and land to it.

In 1871 a Sanad-I-Milkint Isthimirar was granted to Sri A. V. K. V. Appasami Bandariyar along with a certificate of honour on the occasion of the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi which is as follows:—

"By Command of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General, this certificate is presented in the name of Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Empress of India, to M.R.Ry. Arunachella Vasantha Krishna Vanadha Raya Appaswami Bandariyar Avergal. Zamindar of Vettavalam, in recognition of his family claims and the valuable service rendered by his ancestors, in recognition of which the Zamindari was bestowed upon his family in 1816."

During the minority of Sri A.V.K.V. Sakarayya Bandariyar, the estate was managed by Mr. Kanagasabai Pillai. The young Zamindar usually resided in a bungalow built by him in the village Veerapandi and only during the festive occasions like Pongal and Deepavali he used to visit the fort in headquarters. He started boarding schools at Veerapandi and Vettavalam and gave scholarships to many deserving poor people. He built choultries and poor houses. The estate was managed efficiently by the formation of various departments like Revenue, Treasury, Forest, Temple, Store, Record, and Imigration. He paid decent sums of money for performance of important ceremonies in some of the temples at Palani, Kumbakonam, Sri Sankarachari Matam, Tiruvaduthorai Matam, Vridajalam, Tirukoilur, Chidambaram, Parvatipuram, Tiruvannamalai, etc. He gave large grants of land and money to Agateeswaraswami temple at Vettavalam.

The present Zamindar Tirugnana Sambandar was educated at the Pacheappa High School, Chidambaram. He visited Madras and had an interview with the Governor of Madras. Till the regime of Sri Venkataraya Bandariyar, Arunacheleswara Temple at Tiruvannamalai was being managed by the Zamindars. Afterwards the Government established District Committees to look after and manage the temple. But even now ceremonies are performed at the temple at the expense of the Zamindar.

The estate of Vettavalam is situated to the South of Jinji and to the east of Tiruvannamalai. Its ancient fortress, measuring a furlong and a half in length, is at the foot of the hills. It has four spacious buildings, three bridges, and a fine tank with a large garden of various kinds of trees at its bund. To the west of the fort there is the battle-field. The water in the well at the foot of the hills near the fort was examined by many sanitary officers and pronounced to contain some important mineral properties conducive to health. Two and a half miles from Vettavalam there are two hills, known as Pakkam and Durgam on which are a fort, large tanks, summer residences of the former Zamindars, and gardens.

As a rule, the Zamindars of Vettavalam were strict vegetarians, total abstainers from the use of liquor, and conspicuous for their charitable disposition, piety, generosity and above all loyalty to the British throne.

IMPORTANT PERSONAGES

HIS EXCELLENCY MONSIEUR L. GERBINIS,

Governor of French Establishments in India, Pondicherry.

His Excellency Monsieur Louis Martial Innocent Gerbinis, Governor of French India, at Pondicherry, was born in Toulon on the 1st July in the year 1871. He was appointed Chevalier of the Legion of Honour on the 6th February, 1897. He had served in Madagascar until 1918 to the grade of the Chief Administrator of the Colonies, and afterwards he was made the Chief Administrator of the Political Office of the General Government at Tulear.

He was a member of the Academy of Madagascar, and in that capacity he improved and brought into usage a dialect language that was merged in obscurity in the island.

He was nominated as the Governor of French Establishments in India in the year 1918 and was promoted to the title of Officer of the Legion of Honour on the 12th July, 1919.

Mr. Louis Gnana Arokiasamy Mudaliar was born at Pondicherry on the 31st May, 1886. He is the elder of the two sons of the late Mr. Louis Sinnayya Gnanapragasa Mudaliar. It is widely known that he is the wealthiest gentleman at Pondicherry. His name is reputed throughout Southern India for his kindness of heart, the goodness of his character and the nobility of his ideas in matters of religion and caste.

Like his ancestors he continues to be the Dubash of the Savana Cotton Mills at Pondicherry, the most ancient of all the mills in French India. Through his influence, the mill is progressing daily with improved up-to-date machinaries. He is also one of the big share-holders of this factory.

On political ground his career is very swiftly rising. In 1919, his father retired from the electorial mandate purposely to see his son shine in the political field, and the public body of voters elected him unanimously as a member to the Municipal and Legislative Councils. In the second term of his Municipal membership, he was raised to the honour of First Assistant Mayor of Pondicherry.

He is discharging his duties with great zeal for the welfare of the population. The "*Temoinage de satisfaction*" presented to him by His Excellency the Governor General of French India bears witness to his rare qualities, and it may be referred here to the distinction of Knighthood bestowed on him by the Home Government in the order of "*Merite Agricole*" and "*Etoile Noine de Benin*".

Continuing his family tradition and with full harmony of his younger brother Mr. Louis Gnana Sinnaya Mudaliar, he is improving the various charities started by his father. To meet the convenience of strangers coming to Pondicherry he has good many accomodations in Indian and European quarters which are crowded all round the year.

His many and munificent contributions to Philanthropical objects have covered a wide range, actuated by that true sense of generosity which recognises no distinction of caste or creed.

He has a special gift of knowledge in Architecture and he has constructed two bungalows, one in the town, and the other in his garden at Karuvadikuppam, two miles away from the town. These buildings and the decorations inside and outside stand as the principal curiosities to be visited by people from abroad. The architectural works and the selection of decorations are products of his own initiative and skilfulness.

He has a good taste in music and he patronises every musician and rewards the musicians according to their merits.

He takes much interest and delight in journeys and little by little he has visited almost the whole of Southern India and a part of Ceylon.

Mr. D. Bhavanarayana Row Pantulu, B.A.B.L., Special Assistant Settlement Officer, in the district of West Godavari is the grandson of the late Bapiah Pantulu of Kankatapalem in the Bapatla Taluq and the son of late Rao Bahadur D. Krishnayya Pantulu. Late Bapiah Pantulu comes of an ancient Aruvela Neogy family of the Guntur District and are known as the 'Desirajus' of Bapatla. A member of this family was constituted the first Dharmakarta of Sri Bhavanarayana Swamy temple (now recognised as an ancient monument) so early as 511 A. D. by Krimi Khanta Chola when he invaded that part of the country. Another Grandson of Bapiah Pantulu son of Sriramulu is now the first of the three Dharmakartas. Late Bapiah was the Karnam of the village Kankatapalem and was very well known in the locality. He left behind him seven sons who are, D. Venkatappiah, Sriramulu, Bhavanarayana, Venkatachallapathy Rao, Subba Rao, Sitarama Rao and

Dr. Mrs. Poonen Lukose (page 43).

D. Krishnayya Pantulu (page 42).

Louis Gnana Arokiaswamy Mudaliar.

Monsieur L. Gerbinis.

Rao Bahadur D. Krishnayya Pantulu. In the whole of the Guntur district and in their community this family was the pioneer and the first to take advantage of the English education.

The eldest of the brothers eagerly realised the value of the English education and educated all the younger brothers and it must be said it was particularly because of his shrewd foresight that the fourth and fifth brothers passed the Matriculation examination and the sixth and seventh brothers graduated in Engineering and Arts.

After the completion of their education in their respective lines all the brothers took to public service. The first brother Mr. D. Venkatappiah entered the Mysore State having accompanied Diwan Rangacharlu of Mysore during the resumption of the state after the fourth Mysore war. The fifth brother Mr. Subba Rao also followed the eldest brother and joined the Mysore State service. His son Mr. D. Hanumantha Rao, B.A., B.L., High Court vakil, is now the leading practitioner at the Guntur District Court and the Secretary of the Bar Association.

Rao Bahadur D. Krishniah Pantulu was born on the first January in the year 1861 and was early educated at the Masulipatam Noble College wherefrom he passed his F.A. examination. Afterwards he went over to Madras and joined the Madras Christian College and took his degree in the year 1882. Afterwards he studied for law during the years 1882 to 1884. After completing his education he joined the Board of Revenue in the Settlement Department about the year 1885. He rapidly passed through the several graduations in the department and at one time was holding the rank of the First Assistant to the Board in the Settlement Department during 1901—1902. Finally in the year 1912 he was appointed as the Special Settlement Officer, a post usually held by the members of the Indian Civil Service. He had five Deputy Collectors working under him and he may be said to have created a precedent for Indian officers of the Provincial Civil Service to hold that appointment.

Even after retirement his untiring and indefatigable energy did not allow him to rest. He devoted his best attention to improve the local self-government system and as such served on the local boards as their president in the Taluq Boards of Ongole and Bapatla, besides being a prominent member of the District Board. Local patriotism was high in him coupled with philanthropic disposition and as such he strove much to improve the condition of his birth place and was one of the principal persons for bringing into existence the Local High School and the Town Hall and the location of Judicial Courts at Bapatla. To this end he readily gave away the sites now occupied by a portion of the new High School buildings and the local Town Hall.

In recognition of his public services the Government conferred on him the title of Rao Bahadur in the year 1910 and a Delhi Coronation Durbar Medal in 1912. This venerable gentleman passed away peacefully on the first of January, 1922, five years after his retirement.

Rao Bahadur D. Krishnayya Pantulu has left behind him five sons, Messrs. D. Bhavanarayana Rao, B.A., B.L., Venkatachalapathi Row, B.A., Sarvabhowma Rao, B.A., B.L., Parthasarathi Rao and Venkata Lakshmi Narasimha Rao.

Mr. D. Bhavanarayana Row Pantulu, B.A., B.L., is a Deputy Collector in the service of the Madras Government and is now the Special Assistant Settlement Officer in the District of West Godavari. He is a gentleman of affable and pleasing manners and has a bright future before him.

Dr. Mrs. Mary Poonen Lukose is the daughter of the late Dr. E. Poonen, M.D., Senior Surgeon in the State Service and comes of an ancient Syrian Christian family at Kottayam (Travancore). She is married to Mr. K. K. Lukose, B.A., B.L., High Court Vakil, Madras, and her father-in-law, the late Mr. K. K. Kuruirla, B.C.E., was a scholar and one of the prominent members of the Legislative Council of his day. She is the niece of Mr. K. Jacob, Judge of the Travancore High Court and also of Mr. K. Chandy, member of the Executive Council, Mysore.

Mrs. Lukose had a very distinguished educational career. She was early educated in the Roman Catholic Convent schools of Quilon and Trivandrum. She passed her matriculation from the latter institution and as she headed the list of girls in English she won the gold medal of Krupabhai Sathianadhan. She soon passed the first examination in Arts and was presented with a gold medal by the public of Travancore for being the first Indian lady from the State to pass that examination. Then against bad oppositions she was admitted into the Maharajah's College wherefrom she graduated in the year 1909 with distinction, taking History and Economics as her optional subjects and French as her second language. This time she was presented with a gold medal by the Christian Bishops of different denominations for being the first lady to graduate from Travancore. Soon after in the year 1909 she was awarded a state scholarship by H. H. the late Maharajah to study medicine in foreign lands. She was the first Indian lady from Travancore to cross the seas, just as her father, the late Dr. E. Poonen and her grand uncle the late Mr. P. C. Poonen, Bar-at-law, (late of the Cochin service) were the first in Travancore to cross the seas and qualify themselves for their respective professions. With the desire to take advantage of the best instruction available in England, she joined the London School

of Medicine for women. She took the degree of M.B.B.S. from the London University within the shortest time, after obtaining several certificates of honour and prizes every year. Afterwards she underwent Post graduate course in Practical Midwifery and diseases of women in the famous Rasunda Hospital, Dublin, and obtained the diploma of L.M. of the same hospital. Dr. Lukose specialised in several branches of the profession by attending for several months the Fever Hospital, the Hospital for diseases of the chest, the Hospital for diseases of the nerves, the Hospital for diseases of the skin, the hospital for diseases of the nose, throat and ear, the Hospital for diseases of the eye and the Children's Hospital, all being the special Hospitals in London for different kinds of ailments. She also took a practical course in Anaesthetics in the Victoria Hospital, New Castle. During her stay in England, after her College career was over, she held the responsible post of House Surgeon in several well-known military and civil hospitals and won high testimonials from every professor and her superior officers, which stand as excellent and eloquent testimony of her high ability, skill and character.

Afterwards in the year 1916, at the instance of the Travancore Government Dr. Lukose was appointed as the Surgeon-in-charge of the W & C Hospital, Trivandrum, a post hitherto enjoyed only by the Europeans. From the day she took charge of the institution it prospered well, and its efficiency was raised to a very high standard, so much so that it is the most popular institution in the State. Caste Hindu and Muslim Gosha ladies do not hesitate to enter in, as in-patients of the institution, while patients from all parts of India and the Native States resort to the institution in several hundreds. No greater proof for the efficiency and the management of the institution is necessary than that of the pages of the visitors' book. Distinguished Europeans and Indians, Indian Princes, Dewans, Council Members, High Court judges and eminent doctors have all signified their appreciation of the great and efficient work of the hospital in high and eloquent terms. H. E. Lady Willingdon has remarked, "Quite the best Hospital for women and children I have seen." Hon. Sir C. P. Ramasawmi Iyer, the Law Member to the Government of Madras has written, "Dr. Lukose and her assistants deserve all credit for the administration of a hospital which, of its kind, is better than any other I have seen in India." In September, 1924 Dr. Lukose was appointed to be in charge of the Travancore Medical Department and Physician to H. H. the Maharanee Regent, H. H. the Minor Maharajah, H. H. the Junior Maharanee, H. H. the Elaya Rajah and the two Royal princesses. This first appointment of a lady to the responsible post, and the choice of Dr. Lukose, was hailed with satisfactory approbation by the general public, the members of the local Legislative Council, and the press of India, England and America. She was nominated as a member of the State Legislative Council, another unique event in the history of the Indian Political advancement. She acquitted herself well in the Legislative Council deliberations, as the Head of the Medical Department. As her success was beyond measure, she was re-nominated to the new Legislative Council of the year 1925. She evinces great interest in all matters that are conducive to the public welfare and humanity at large. She has excellent organising capacity and powers. The baby weeks organised and conducted in Travancore under her able directions, and through the efficient management of the Y.W.C.A. Hostel which accommodates about fifty girls bear a testimony to her capacity.

Mrs. Lukose is the President of the Y.W.C.A. organisation and of the National Missionary Society in Travancore. Dr. Lukose is besides an accomplished musician and holds the diploma of A.L.C.M. (in Piano-Forte playing) from the London College of Music.

Rao Bahadur K. V. Natesa Iyer is the first Indian gentleman to be appointed to the post of the Chief Engineer in Travancore. He was born on the 24th of March in the year 1872 in the village of Kaveripatnam in the Tanjore District. He had a very distinguished scholastic and college career, taking a very high rank in the first class in all the university examinations. He graduated in Arts with Mathematics and Natural Philosophy as his optional subjects from the Presidency College, Madras, coming out first in the Presidency in Sanskrit language and Literature and secured the Maharajah of Vizianagaram and the University Sri Goday Vari prizes for the same. Afterwards he studied in the Engineering College, Madras, under such eminent professors as Sir Alfred Chatterton, Colonel Love and Mr. Hanumantha Rao, and passed out with brilliant success, narrowly missing the first place in the college examination but securing the first place in the Bachelor of Engineering examination of the university.

After the completion of his studies Mr. Natesa Iyer joined the Travancore Public Works Department as an Assistant Engineer and was the personal assistant to Mr. Jopp, the then Chief Engineer. His steady application, his untiring energy and devotion to duty had its own reward and in 1906, we find Mr. Natesa Iyer a Divisional officer. From thence he progressed steadily onwards and early in 1921 he acted as Deputy Chief Engineer. Immediately after in June of the same year he was selected to reorganise the Maramat Department which he did with success and continued to be its head till September 1921, when he was elevated to the headship of the P. W. D. which had been till then, since

its inception, controlled by European Chief Engineers. He had twenty-five years of varied service in the department by the time he became the Chief Engineer.

This period of service of twenty-five years in the department is full of numerous activities worthy of praise and approbation. He did all the hydraulic calculations for the Kodayar reservoir project works and helped Mr. Jopp, the then Chief Engineer, in the preparation of the report of the same and earned his special thanks for the assistance rendered. He investigated the Trivandrum water supply schemes and prepared estimates which earned the appreciation of the same Chief Engineer who recorded them in his final report to the government. He formed the new irrigation sub-division in Nanjanad, and investigated many of the irrigation channels in South Trvancore and prepared the irrigation maps with connected hydraulic details and tables. He did the complete investigation of the Thovala channel and the Ananthan Kulam Kal extension, two of the important Kodayar project channels, with their branches. Many of the recent outstanding public buildings in Trivandrum, to mention only a few of them such as the Guest House, the Law College, the Sri Mulam Rama Varma High School at Vanchiyur, the New Arts College building, the Forest Office building, His Highness the Maharajah's palace at Warkalay, were constructed under his supervision. With his help and co-operation numerous local roads were opened up in north Travancore by the people. He has made a special study of reinforced concrete construction which has been freely adopted by the Travancore P.W.D.

He has for four and half years administered the Department as Chief Engineer. He effected great economy in the department. He reorganised and introduced retrenchment in the department in 1922. He has been directing the operations on a much more extended scale than previously, coping with this extended activity with a reduced staff. He has kept down the expenditure on establishment as low as possible consistent with efficiency. The Public Works revenue has increased by about two lacs of Rupees under his careful control and watchfulness. Government have commended in their reviews of his annual reports of the department the satisfactory work done by him especially in the matter of prompt restoration of extensive damages caused to the irrigation works in South Travancore in 1922, in the matter of special attention paid during the past three years to the restoration of minor irrigation works which have been previously neglected, in the matter of the close scrutiny and great care exercised by him in the preparation of estimates, and in the matter of extending communications in central and north Travancore. Government have also appreciated and recorded the commendable promptitude and celerity with which the P.W. staff under his orders took up the restoration and reconstruction of communications and irrigation works which got damaged by the unprecedentedly heavy rains and floods of August 1924 and completed them within a very short time.

The improvement and opening of the main road from Alleppy to Sherthalai and thence on to the Cochin frontier were arranged for by Mr. Natesa Iyer to be carried out expeditiously during 1926—27 and the road up to Shertalai is an accomplished fact now, having been vigorously proceeded with by the P. W. Staff.

In recognition of his accademcial efficiency he was elected by the University authorities as one of the chief examiners for the B.E. degree examination in 1910. He is a member of the Indian Mathematics Society for over 26 years. He is a life member of the Rationalist Press Association, London. He had been for several years a member of the executive committee of the Local Friend-in-Need Society and the S.P.C.A. He is also a life member of the Trivandrum Hindu Mahila Mandiram.

He retired from service from 24th March, 1927 on attaining the 55th year of age. The title of Rao Bahadur has been conferred on him by the Imperial Government in recognition of his distinguished services to the State of Travancore as the first Indian Chief Engineer.

He has at the time of retirement given donations of Rs. 150 each to the Trivandrum Friend-in-Need Society and to the Trivandrum Humanitarian Society in commemoration of his long and active connection with them. He has also endowed Rs. 2,000 with the Government of Travancore for two medals to be presented annually in His Highness the Maharajah's College of Science and His Highness the Maharajah's College for Women at Trivandrum.

He is a permanent member in the General Electorate of S.N.D.T. Indian Women's University, Poona. He has published series No. 1 and No. 2 of "Rationalistic Thoughts" to propound the religion of "Humanism" and also a tract on "Varma Dharma."

N. Nanu Pillai, Ex-Dewan of Travancore, popularly known in Travancore as Dewan Nagan Narayanan, was the Prime Minister of that State from 1877 to 1880, and was born in Neyoor, in South Travancore, in April 1827 in a highly respectable Nair family, his father being Nagan Tambi, a reputed Sanskrit scholar and a renowned Astrologer. Mr. Nanu Pillai had his early education in the London Mission School at Nagercoil and in H. H. the Rajah's Free School at Trivandrum, from which institution he passed out as a proficient of exceptional standing.

Nanu Pillai's high attainments soon attracted the attention of several prominent men and especially that of the then British Resident at Travancore, Lieut. General W. Cullen so much, that young

Nanu Pillai was straight away employed in the Resident's office at Trivandrum, where he served with ability and distinction for over fifteen years. The extraordinary abilities and strong character of Nanu Pillai soon impressed Maharajah Martanda Varma, with admiration and appreciation and the Maharajah drafted him into the service of the Travancore State, first appointing him as Sheristadar in the Government office and subsequently raised him to the position of the Dewan Peishkar. As Dewan Peishkar he turned out excellent work in the Districts of Padmanabhapuram and Trivandrum, and paved the way for him to attain the highest office in the state. His early services in the office, and his experiences as Dewan Peishkar, qualified him to occupy the position of the Dewan of the State to which eminence he was soon raised.

As Dewan he showed a remarkable insight into the details of the administrative work and introduced several beneficent reforms. After an interval of sixty years he was the first Travancorean, to rise to the high position of Dewan, thus proving that Travancore, which is in the forefront of educational advancement in India, can unquestionably supply her own Dewans. The origin and the initiation of the Irrigation Scheme in South Travancore which has now developed into the great Kodayar project, owes every thing to Mr. Nanu Pillai. During his regime of office the state flourished well, and his days are remembered as a period of plenty and prosperity.

After he retired from service he collected materials for the preparation of a sketch of the administrative progress of Travancore. He prepared two parts of the sketch, but unfortunately he did not live to see the necessary revisions for placing the manuscript to the Press. It is a valuable work of much time and labour and contains a mine of information on the origin, growth and development of the several branches of the Travancore Administration since the days of its first connection with the paramount power. Several authors such as the author of the Travancore State Manual and the compiler of the Revenue Manual drew ample materials for their work from Mr. Nanu Pillai's volumes and they are under no small obligation to Dewan Nanu Pillai.

He was a good English scholar, a ripe student of Sanskrit literature and a proficient in Hindustani in which language he conversed with scholarly fluency. Endowed with a genial temperament, a commanding presence and handsome appearance and possessing a large-hearted sympathy, the genuine off-spring of the consciousness of being one among the people whose welfare was entrusted to his keeping, this Nair Dewan always inspired love and esteem for him, in the minds of all those with whom he came in contact and his memory is cherished by all classes of people in Travancore with unalloyed affection and reverence. He died at Trivandrum on 13th August, 1886, leaving behind him four daughters and five sons.

The eldest, Mr. N. Raman Pillai, B.A., filled till recently the place of the Excise Commissioner of the State.

Mr. N. Raman Pillai, Retired Excise Commissioner, Trivandrum, is the eldest son of Dewan Nanu Pillai, and was born in his ancestral home at Neyyattinkara, on the 11th of July in the year 1864. He comes of an old and influential high caste Nair Tarwad family from the south of Trivandrum which is a branch of the Viruthical Tarwad community. The Nair Tarwads, to which caste our N. Raman Pillai belongs, comprises more than one hundred houses distributed in the three taluks of Neyyattinkara, Trivandrum, and Vilavankode. He is also connected by his marriage with the family of the late Mr. C. Krishna Pillai, the great Nair leader and social reformer of Travancore, as our Raman Pillai is the son-in-law of the gentleman. He was early educated in H. H. the Maharajah's College, Trivandrum, where he had the unique fortune to come under the influence of distinguished and veteran educationists like Messrs. John Ross and Robert Harney. While he was in the junior B.A., class a little incident happened, which came as a blessing in disguise and took our Raman Pillai to Madras to prosecute his studies. Mr. Raman Pillai was a precocious patriot, and as he was imbibed with a high sense of patriotism, he in conjunction with his fellow-mate, the late Mr. G. Parmeswaran Pillai, the well-known editor of the Madras Standard, in the year 1882, agitated in the press, the question "Travancore for Travancoreans". Mr. Ramiengar was the Dewan then, and he was much exasperated by the agitation, and he officially ordered the Principal to expel the two candidates and also another young man, by name Mr. R. Runga Row, a grandson of Rajah Sir T. Madhava Row, who was then a B. L. student, was also suspected to be interested in the press articles. After expulsion the triumverate travelled to Madras and joined the Presidency College from where he passed his B.A. examination, fifth in rank in the whole university. Even while in the Presidency College he was fortunate to sit at the feet of very eminent educationists as Dr. David Duncan, Messrs. Bilderbeck and T. Gopal Row. He won their admiration and passed for the best student in the class. Then he studied for law, but as misfortune would have it, his father suddenly died, and he was recalled home, and with his home-coming his education ceased.

After his return home, His Highness the late Maharajah provided him a special place in the Government Secretariat, where our Raman Pillai began his official career. As it was everywhere soon his abilities and merits shined out and his superiors were impressed with his excellent work and capacity. It was Dewan Shungrasoobyer that was much struck with young Raman Pillai's abilities,

K. V. Natesa Aiyar.

K. B. Jacob (page 47).

P. M. Thangal (page 47).

K. Raman Pillay (page 46).

and he sent him out as a Tahsildar, in which capacity he served under several district officers and from all of them he earned admiration and good name. By this time Raman Pillai was sufficiently acknowledged as an excellent officer and he was speedily advanced to the grade of an Assistant Superintendent of Police, in which capacity he rendered exceptionally good work that very much pleased His Highness the Maharajah, and His Highness selected him for the place of the Preventive Superintendent and First Class Magistrate, Arukutty. The Preventive Department was then responsible for tobacco, customs and salt revenue of the northern and central divisions where smuggling was then rife all along the ramifications of backwaters. Soon after our Raman Pillai came in charge of the department, he quickly studied it well, and then as a first step thoroughly overhauled and reorganised the department, and later by his alert watchfulness he completely suppressed and quelled smuggling, and as a result the revenue swelled manyfold. Afterwards the latter Dewan Mr. V. P. Madhava Row organised the excise department and the government could select none but Mr. Raman Pillai to work out the new system at its preliminary stage. Mr. Raman Pillai joined first as the Assistant Excise Commissioner, from which post he steadily rose to the position of Under Secretary to Government, and finally as the supreme head of the department, as the Excise Commissioner of Travancore. No sooner he became the head of the department, characteristic as it is with him, he thoroughly overhauled the department, placed it on an efficient footing, largely developed its resources, drafted several important revenue regulations which were readily passed in the Legislative Council, made all the rules for the successful working of these laws, prepared and published the Travancore Excise Manual, raised the moral tone and discipline of the excise force, and, by these and other measures, he effected a remarkable expansion of the revenue which doubled itself from forty lacs of rupees to eighty lacs in the course of twelve years he was in charge of the Excise Administration. His work was very well recognised and very much appreciated by all. It is worth mentioning in this connection what another Dewan Sir P. Rajagopalachari after taking his seat in the Madras Executive Council wrote to our Raman Pillai. "I recall with pleasure and gratitude your excellent work as the head of the excise department, your scrupulous honesty, high ideals of duty, absolute straight-forwardness, and, I add with pleasure, loyalty to myself personally. Of all the things I did in Travancore which give me particular gratification to look back upon, is my share in your appointment to the headship of the excise department and if I could always have officers as efficient and reliable as yourself I am bound to succeed."

Another Dewan, the latest that relinquished the high office only recently, Dewan Bahadur T. Raghaviah, in his first address to the Sri Moolam Popular Assembly said, "Mr. N. Raman Pillai, the excise commissioner, to whose able and energetic lead for a period of about 12 years the excise department, which supplies the State with more than a third of its entire revenue owes its steady and substantial advancement, retired at the close of the year 1095.

Mr. Raman Pillai after his unbroken, merited and distinguished record of service and after having won the esteem and admiration of everyone, retired only recently from service. After his retirement the Dewan Mr. Raghaviah unveiled a life-size portrait of Mr. Raman Pillai and even then also, he praised him in highly eulogistic terms. Mr. Raman Pillai takes very great interest in all the important public and social movements.

K. B. Jacob, Municipal Chairman, British Cochin, is one of the popular and well-known gentlemen of the locality. He is the first British Cochinite, the son of the soil, to occupy the honoured chair of the Cochin Civic Board. The endearment and confidence that he commanded of his fellowmen was great indeed and he was unanimously elected chairman of the Municipal Council in June, 1924 and he continued to occupy the position till November, 1925 when his term of office ceased due to efflux of time. He creditably discharged his duties to the satisfaction of his constituents whose trust and confidence were reposed in him. To him are due the several improvements in the city.

Just a few weeks after he assumed charge he had to encounter the general disaster which came in the wake of the late universal flood which lasted almost a month. The prompt measures he took and the way in which he secured the support of all the rich men of the locality, creditably combating the miseries of the homeless and the starving population is still on the lips of every one. To him is due the credit of putting the scheme of Compulsory Elementary Education into practical working, which scheme had been resolved upon and cess had been collected by the municipality. Thanks to the efforts and endeavours of Mr. Jacob the children of educative age in the locality where brought under Elementary Instruction. One other great improvement by which he ameliorated the general health of the city was the sinking of tube wells throughout the Municipal area and thus materially mitigated the sufferings of the poor folk of Cochin—a town notorious for stale water. Several other minor but none the less important schemes were also put into practical shape during his days.

P. M. Thangal, landlord, Mattanoor, Chavassery is the son of late Pulleri Illath Kesavan Thangal who was a landlord. About seventy years ago there

was a rebellion in which the Mohamedans assasinated almost all the Nambudris. The late Madhusudan Thangal, the grand-father and the late Kesavan Thangal, the grand uncle of Mr. P. M. Thangal were the only two that survived the rebellion in the whole family. Mr. P. M. Thangal upon the death of his grand-uncle inherited the ancient property in the year 1914.

He was early educated in Sanskrit, Malayalam and English. Soon after the acquirement of the property he took to the management of the estates.

He is endowed with a liberal mind and his generosity is unbounded. He founded a free Elementary School at Mathanoor his native village. He now manages personally the Mathanoor Temple built by his grand-father. In this Temple Brahmins are always fed and charities are given generally to all, irrespective of caste, colour or creed.

He has given away free gifts of land to the Government. The site on which the present police station and the police lines are built, and the ground where the travellers' bungalow stands are all the gifts of P. M. Thangal to the Government.

T. S. Subramaniam Chettiar Avergal, B.A., Tiruppur House, Coimbatore is the son of late S. Swami Chettiar and comes of a respectable family well known in the locality as Tiruppur Chettiars. Late S. Swami Chettiar was a public man and Philanthropist and was very influential in his days. He was a general merchant dealing in general provisions and commodities. He had established a number of choultries and had founded many charities, which are continued even to this day by his son, Mr. Sivasubramaniam Chettiar. The biggest of the choultries is at Tiruppur itself, in his own native place. The family is a typical one of the maxim 'Union is Strength' and is an ideal example to show how co-operation, unity and harmony in a family would shine and how they are sources of pleasure and happiness to individuals as well to the whole family itself. Almost all the prominent members of the family are all well educated and are men of definite principles. Mr. Sivasubramaniam was born in the year 1888 at Tiruppur. He was early educated at Tiruppur and afterwards in the Coimbatore College, Coimbatore till his Intermediate course was over. Then he went over to Madras and joined the Presidency College from where he took his degree in the year 1911.

After his collegiate course was over he returned to Tiruppur and took up the management of the family and the family property. Soon after, his public activities began and it was only in the very next year. In 1914 he was elected a Councillor of the local Municipal Council and for the following period of two and half years, he was the Vice-Chairman of the same body and after some time acted as the Chairman also. He is now an elected member of the Taluq Board and District Educational Council. He is the Secretary of the Old Boys' Association of the Government College, Coimbatore and he has been nominated by the Government as a member of the Selection Committee for the College. He is connected with a number of limited concerns in the town as he is one of the Directors of the Kaleswar Mills, The Town Bank, and The Union Bank of Coimbatore. He is also the Director of a limited Bank in Tiruppur. He is the President of the Sabathy Bank and the Mercantile Bank of Coimbatore and also of the Shunmugananda Nidhi of Oraikalpalayam. He is a freemason of the Chapter Ampthil. In fact there is not a movement in the locality with which he is not concerned.

B. Venkatachala Mudaliar, High Court Vakil, Coimbatore, was born in the year 1863. He had his early education in the Coimbatore College and he took his B.A. degree from the Presidency College, Madras in the year 1887 and he is the first in the District to take the degree. He then studied for law and passed the B.L. examination in the year 1890. He first set up practice in the District Court and got himself enrolled as a High Court Vakil, after five years' practice.

He is a great public worker and his activities are diverted on all sides. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the Coimbatore Hindu Devasthanam and the College Committee, Coimbatore. He is also the President of the Janopakara Nidhi Ltd., of Coimbatore. He is an Honorary Magistrate and a nominated President of the Bench Court for the past twenty years. He is a member of both the Taluq and District Boards. He is also a patron of almost all the local clubs and a member of the Punkilt Presentation Committee of Ireland.

Agriculture for whose development he most enthusiastically worked took away much of his time. He was the Secretary of the Agricultural Association and the Tiruppur Cattle Show. For his meritorious work in the improvement of agricultural concerns a certificate of honour was awarded to him by His Majesty the King Emperor. He is the Director of the Coimbatore Weaving and Spinning Company with which he has been connected for the past twenty-five years.

The origin of Co-operative Societies Act had in no small measure his support and services.

He was one of the twenty representatives from the Madras Presidency that waited in deputation on His Excellency the then Viceroy to concert measures for the introduction of Co-operative Societies into this Presidency.

T. S. Sivasubramaniam Chettiar (page 48).

B. Venkatachala Mudaliar (page 41).

B. Venkataswamy Naidu (page 49).

Late Rao Bahadur B. P. Annasawmi Mudaliar (Page 48).

When there was an irrigation commission appointed by the Government to ascertain the cost of irrigation through wells, he rendered valuable services to the commission and also demonstrated to them the lifting of water from the wells.

He worked for the amelioration of several backward communities. He is the founder and the Vice-president of the Kondakatti Vellalars Dharmaparipalana Sangham in the District of Coimbatore. He has given away liberal donations for the education and advancement of the community. Almost all his relatives who are poor are well helped by him.

His philanthropic attitude has made him a friend of the poor and the depressed and the deserving always find succour in him. He is an erudite scholar and a pious man. He maintains a good library with numerous books on religion and literature. He retired from active life eighteen years ago and spends much of his time in the devotion and worship of God.

M. R. Ry. S. Ramakrishna Reddi Garu, of Kurnool, is the descendant of a family that migrated nearly a century ago from his Exalted Highness the Nizam's Dominions. Late Papi Reddi is the son of late Ella Reddi who lived to a very ripe age of one hundred and two years. The members of this family owned landed estates in the Alampur Taluq in the Nizam's Dominions and were for many generations Ayurvedic doctors and they were all well disposed to charity. The poor were ever treated and nursed free of all costs.

Late Papi Reddi inherited the paternal property and was further a contractor earning a good lot. All the Customs Office buildings in the Nizam's Dominions were constructed by him. He added much to the ancestral property and prospered well. He was a good Telugu scholar and was well versed in Telugu Literature. He was very charitable and helped almost all his relations with ample financial support whenever they were in need. He was very pious and religious too and had constructed many temples in Itikalpadu Taluq. He had dug for public use many wells. He died in the year 1895 when he was seventy-five years of age, leaving behind him four sons, Messrs. Venkata Reddi, Narayana Reddi, Vengala Reddi and Ramakrishna Reddi.

The first three sons are at Alampur managing the ancestral property and the fourth son Mr. Ramakrishna Reddi is at Kurnool. Mr. Narayana Reddi started a Ginning factory at Kurnool in the year 1911 and all the brothers are partners in that concern. It is a limited concern and is now managed by Mr. Ramakrishna Reddi.

Mr. Ramakrishna Reddi is a good Telugu scholar and takes a keen interest in educating the public. With this view he has patronised many libraries with finance and in 1911 opened a library at his own cost which contains a decent collection of good books and more especially standard Sanskrit books. Books are circulated free to the public and the library is under the management of his nephew, Mr. Pratabha Reddi, B.A., B.L., who is a good scholar in Sanskrit and is a regular contributor to the press of both English and Telugu articles.

As characteristic of the family Mr. Ranga Reddi, son of Mr. Venkata Reddi, the brother of Mr. Ramakrishna Reddi, recently contributed a large sum of money towards the construction of a hundred houses for the poor to dwell in at Utukur Taluq, the family seat.

Rao Saheb Bangalore Vemala Venkatasawmi Naidu of "Maruthi Mahal," Bangalore, is one of the well-known public men of Bangalore. Mr. Naidu is a municipal commissioner and honorary magistrate, and a gentleman of admirable tactics, ever ready to be of use to the rich and the poor.

Mr. Naidu was born on the 9th September, 1867, in the family house at Bangalore, and comes of a well-known "Padma Velama" Naidu community, which originally belonged to Karvetinagaram in Kalahasti. Late V. Papiah Naidu, an ancestor of the family was the pioneer to emigrate to Mysore and domicile there and it is a century since the family has permanently settled at Mysore. Mr. Naidu is the grandson of the late Venkappa Naidu, and the son of late V. Hanumappa Naidu, who was a P.W.D. contractor and a landlord. Unfortunately for Mr. Naidu his father died while he was very young. Great God is ever ready to help the needy and the deserving, and our Naidu was blessed to find a supporter in his paternal uncle, the late V. Ramasawmi Naidu. Late Ramasawmi Naidu brought up his nephew with all paternal care and our Venkatasawmi Naidu did everything possible in him to return the deep debt of gratitude that he owed to his kind uncle.

Mr. Venkatasawmi Naidu married the daughter of Mr. Ramiah Naidu, a well-known Sowcar and an influential gentleman of Hyderabad State. Mr. Ramiah Naidu was a Banker to the Royal Engineers of the Queen's Own Sappers and Miners at Bangalore.

Rao Saheb B. V. Venkatasawmi Naidu is a right hand to the military at Bangalore. He is ever obliging, courteous and prompt, and always undertakes any kind of difficult work and does it well and expeditiously. He is highly capable of coping with the conservancy work of the whole Brigade for the last fifteen years, without any complaint, and has earned the good repute of all the military officers. A Colonel of the Thirtieth Lancers certifies, "I wish India possessed more like him," and another officer Major General Kennedy, C. B., endorses, "He is a man of first class standing". No less is his worth and credit on the civil side. He has been spoken

of by various Collectors and the British Residents of the station as a gentleman who has been ever ready to co-operate and work with zeal for the public good. When the ravaging epidemic of plague was virulent in Bangalore he helped the inoculation campaign so far that Mr. Richards, I.C.S., the Collector, highly complemented him by saying that the public should be profoundly grateful for his indefatigable exertions. Mr. Cox, another Collector, in one of his letters to Mr. Naidu wrote, "In public capacities he has always shown himself attentive to his duties and anxious to assist in the public good." Mr. Naidu loyally co-operated and rendered immense service in successfully carrying out the Delhi Durbar celebrations in Bangalore in 1911. He was also largely responsible for the splendid reception accorded to H. E. Lord Chelmsford during his visit to Bangalore.' Both Sir Hugh Daily, the British Resident, and the Hon'ble Mr. Cobb, a later Resident, were highly pleased with Mr. Naidu for his active and enthusiastic participations in all the royal celebrations. The war loan committee owes none the less to him and he himself has contributed a large sum of Rs. 20,000. Mr. Naidu was enthusiastically active when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales visited Bangalore in 1922. He repaired an old choultry of his own and 2,000 people were sumptuously fed on the occasion. Lord and Lady Ruthven, Mr. and Mrs. Tasker, who visited that part of the city then, were immensely pleased and were overjoyed to see so many poor people comfortably sitting and enjoying a hearty meal.

As a municipal commissioner he was attentive to the civic needs of the city. He brought about the opening of a free dispensary in his locality. The family creed and with its hoary tradition, the creed of our Naidu is charity and service and he is well-known in the locality. In recognition of his public services the title of Rao Saheb was conferred on him by the Government. Many congratulatory addresses were presented to him by his many friends and numerous admirers. Our Rao Saheb holds many testimonials and credentials from eminent civil and military officers, which it is a pleasure to peruse. We are glad to see we entirely agree with the Countess Jeanne Skipwitch, who in her testimonial says, "It is a great pleasure to know him."

Late Rao Bahadur B. P. Annasawmi Mudaliar, C.I.E., was born at Bangalore in the year 1868, and was early educated in the London Mission High School at Bangalore. He began his English education rather late at his 14th year. He was a distinguished student and passed the Matriculation examination in first class and first in the province.

He entered life as a contractor in the Public Works Department in Mysore State, and later changed over to the Railway department as a contractor and undertook the huge construction of the then Madras Railway Company. His first activities in this direction were at Bellary. He retired from active life in the year 1916.

He was a very charitable personage, always available to the poor and the needy. He instituted a caste ward in the Lady Curson Hospital and co-operated with the Government and served humanity a good deal in the great plague of 1898. In recognition of this humane service the Government conferred on him the title of Rao Bahadur in the year 1902. In the year 1912 he constructed a free dispensary and school in the Fraser Town and dedicated it to the public use, and he was awarded a C.I.E. in appreciation of this charitable endowment. He had a well dug in Brucepet at Bellary for the public use and two other wells dug at Bangalore Cantonment during the period of water scarcity in the year 1892. He constructed an elementary school at Ramagiri in the Mysore Province which was subsequently handed over to the Local Fund authorities for management.

Late Rao Bahadur Annasawmi Mudaliar was also a public worker and interested himself in all the civic affairs. He was a municipal commissioner of the Civil and Military Station at Bangalore till the year 1921. He took very great interest in the Boy Scout movement and also in the Friend-in-Need Society and helped many other philanthropic institutions with finance. He was resorted to by all suppliants of any kind of charity and rarely did they go without succour.

In the year 1906 he constructed and completed the public offices of the Civil and Military Station at Bangalore and he was fittingly rewarded with a Kaisar-i-Hind gold medal in the same year. In 1909 he rendered immense services in the Fraser Town extension scheme in Bangalore and on this occasion he was awarded with a bar to the Kaisar-i-Hind medal.

As aforesaid he retired from active life in the year 1916 and after eight years of peaceful rest he expired on the 22nd January in the year 1924. He leaves behind him three sons, Mr. Madhavaraya Mudaliar, Mr. Chelvaraya Mudaliar, and Mr. Achutharaya Mudaliar, of whom Mr. Madhavaraya Mudaliar, the eldest son, is a scholar and a graduate.

We need end the biography of this beloved personage with no more additions than the letter of the British Resident at Bangalore to Mr. Madhavaraya Mudaliar, on the sad demise of his father which speaks for itself the reverence and endearment in which the late Rao Bahadur was held. The letter runs as follows:—

"His demise is not only a loss to the family, but to the whole of the Bangalore City in general. Many an ardent suppliant lost his share of support in him."

Rao Bahadur C. N. Suryanarayana Row, Vakil, 5, Osborne Road, Bangalore, is the son of the late C. R. Nanjundiah, and the grandson of late Ramakrishnayya. Mr. Suryanarana Row comes of an ancient family which traces its origin to the late Paparaja, the Prime Minister of the Vizianagaram kingdom.

Late Ramakrishnayya was a Sanskrit scholar and was the first emigrant of the family to Bangalore from Bellary. It was immediately after the last Mysore War in 1799 that the family became the domiciled settlers in Bangalore.

Late C. R. Nanjundiah, the father of Mr. C. N. Surayanarayana Row, was in the Telegraphic department and it was he that built up the first telegraphic line between Bellary and Bangalore. Later he studied for law, which profession disgusted him soon, and finally he took to business, becoming a contractor and supplier to the Government. He helped the Government a great deal during the severe famine of 1876 and 1877, by supplying paddy and provisions for food relief. He was an honorary magistrate and freemason of the Bangalore Lodge. He was very much interested in horse racing, and was himself a good sportsman, owning many race horses. He retired from active life in 1890.

Rao Bahadur Suryanarayana was born on the 31st January in the year 1873 at Bangalore. He had his early education in the Wesleyan High School and his higher education in the St. Joseph's College at Bangalore. He left the College in 1890 and completed his legal studies in 1892 and was enrolled as a lawyer in the year 1893. Since then Mr. Suryanarayana Row has been building up a steady practice. He was made the Public Prosecutor in the year 1923, and was the first appointed Government pleader, soon after such a post was created. He became the municipal councillor of the Civil and Military Station, Bangalore, in the year 1894, and from then he is returned to the Council consecutively year after year. He is the Vice-President of the Council ever since the post was thrown open to Indians. As a municipal commissioner he was chiefly instrumental in bringing water supply to the Civil and Military Station, and he had a tough fight for its achievement. He also fought for the surplus grant to the Municipality and by his strenuous exertions got some lakhs every year to meet the needs of other sanitary improvements.

Rao Bahadur Suryanarayana has got a brother, C. N. Suryaprakasa Rao, who is also a lawyer and Public Prosecutor. Mr. Suryanarayana and his brother Mr. Suryaprakasa Rao are carrying on the legal practice under the name of 'The Surya Brothers' for the past fifteen years. Mr. Suryanarayana Rao is a great Educationist and spares no pains to the cause of Education. He is a trustee of the Hindu Balika Patasala, which was founded by his illustrious father. He takes no small measure of interest in all the Civic problems and especially the compulsory Educational system and the Housing of the poor. The title of Rao Bahadur was confered on him in the year 1920, in recognition of his public services.

Rao Bahadur Suryanarayana is blessed with a son, Mr. C. S. Baskara Rao, M.A., Bar-at-law. He is in Salem as the Public Prosecutor for the past seven years. He was apprenticed under the famous brilliant lawyer of India, Mr. Eardley Norton, and subsequently was also his junior at Calcutta for sometime.

Mr. A. Thangavelu Mudaliar, Spencer's Road, Bangalore, is a well-known personage in Bangalore for his many charities. From time immemorial the family is reputed for its philanthropic attitude and actions. Mr. Thangavelu Mudaliar is the son of late Rai Bahadur Dharmakartha Arcot Narayanaswami Mudaliar whose endearing name is a household word in Bangalore. The life of late Rai Bahadur Dharmakartha Arcot Narayanswami Mudaliar, is a remarkable one and is a '*Beau Ideal*' to the future generation. His life is in par with the great American president portrayed in the book from the 'Lock Cabin to the White House.' 'He was born in Bangalore on the 25th May, 1828. The Rai Bahadur though coming of a historic family, members of which occupied rich positions in life, yet had to raise himself by his own exertions from a position of obscurity to one of affluence and was marked as the richest man in the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore. Mr. Narayanaswami's father died while he was very young. He married in 1849 and started business. He used to buy cabbages at Bangalore, take them to Madras, and sell them at a profit. In turn he used to bring salt from Madras to Bangalore and sell at a reasonable profit. He was able to save a fairly large sum of money in a short time. Later he opened a small shop which later developed to a huge business concern and by the year 1867 he was ranked as a merchant prince in Bangalore. His shop was visited by many celebrated people and His Highness the late Maharajah Chamaraja Wodiyar himself visited his shop when he came to Bangalore. After his rise to prominence his philanthropic attitude grew strong in him. His mother always advised him to be kind to the poor. As he was more inclined towards the promotion of education, he opened several schools. In recognition of his meritorious service to the public, he was given the title of Rao Bahadur at the Imperial Assemblage of Delhi in 1877. The title of Dharmaratnakara was bestowed upon him by H. H. the late Maharajah Chamaraja Wodiyar Bahadur at the Dasara Assembly of 1894.

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He spent his life in pious devotion to Siva and peacefully passed away on 9th February, 1910. Sir M. Fraser, the then British Resident at Mysore, and Sir T. Ananda Rao, C. I. E., the then Dewan were among those who paid respects to the last remains of Mr. Mudaliar at his residence. His remains were buried in his own gardens in Veera Pillay Street with the permission of the Government, a rare honour done to very few persons in the Empire.

Mr. A. Thangavelu Mudaliar was born in the year 1877 at Bangalore. He was early educated in the Bangalore Central College which he left in the year 1909 to assist his father and his partners in business. While in the college he passed for an excellent and all round sportsman and he won many cups and trophies in several of the Inter-Collegiate tournaments. He is also an excellent horseman. He assisted his father a great deal and later he managed everything while his father led a retired life. They are the manufacturing contractors to the Mysore State including the Civil and Military Station, Bangalore. They supply liquor and other spirits to the Military at Bangalore. They were the first to start trade in manganese and other minerals in the Mysore State.

After the death of Rai Bahadur Dharmakartha Narayanaswami Mudaliar the whole business and the public charities had to be managed by Mr. Thangavelu Mudaliar which he is ably doing, even to this day. He started an industrial class in the Technical School established by his father and now wood work, metal work, and motor engineering are taught there. Besides almost all the pupils in the lower classes of the several institutions maintained by our benevolent Mudaliar are free scholars and they are also supplied with books. Mr. Mudaliar is a freemason of the Mother Lodge, Bangalore, and he always takes keen interest in all the public activities in Bangalore. He holds a King's Commission in 11/3 Battalion of the Madras Regiment.

Mr. V. Namasivaya Chettiar, 30, Infantry Road, Bangalore, is the son of the late Rai Bahadur Vellore Govinda Chettiar, a well-known public-spirited gentleman of Bangalore and comes of a family very well known for its liberal charities. The family tradition of benevolence and charity is handed down from father to son and to-day immense are the charities maintained by Namasivaya Chettiar, a worthy son of the family.

Late Rai Bahadur Vellore Govinda Chettiar was a wealthy and influential citizen of Bangalore. He built a choultry for the benefit of the poor and travelling public near the Bangalore Cantonment at a cost of more than a lac and fifty thousand rupees. The choultry is always under the management of a committee on which members of the family and municipal chairman as a representative of the Government and several of the citizens are members. Late Rai Bahadur Govinda Chettiar has further endowed Rs. 20,000 in Government bonds. The choultry is well managed and is very useful to the rich and the poor.

In recognition of his public services the Government conferred on Govinda Chettiar the title of Rai Bahadur on 16th April, 1875. Mr. Govinda Chettiar is the first to receive such a distinction in Bangalore so early as 1875. The title was conferred on him by His Excellency Lord Northbrook, the Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

After the death of Mr. Chettiar the management of the charities were taken by his eldest son, Mr. Gangadhar Chettiar ably assisted by his brother Mr. Namasivaya Chettiar. Mr. Gangadhar Chettiar is himself a public man, being a municipal commissioner and honorary magistrate. Like his father he is also charitably disposed.

He constructed a ward in the Lady Curzon Hospital for women and children at a cost of Rs. 15,000 and presented it to the hospital. In recognition of his public services Mr. Gangadhar Chettiar was awarded a Certificate of Merit by H. M. The King Emperor on the 22nd June, 1897.

V. Namasivaya Chettiar was born in the year 1871 at Bangalore and was early educated in the London Mission High School. In the year 1886 he joined the business of his father and his partners who were general merchants and owners of breweries. Late Rai Bahadur Govinda Chettiar was the pioneer to own brewery concerns at Bangalore and later it developed to such huge dimensions that partners had to be taken in. Now the whole business is converted into a limited concern under the name of THE UNITED BREWERIES LTD.

Mr. Namasivaya Chettiar also carries in him the family tradition of charity and public spirit.

The choultry founded by his father had been improved to a great extent and all the poor that flock to it are sumptuously fed. There is a separate ward in the choultry where travellers can rest for three days. During the plague season he actively co-operated with the Government to popularise plague inoculation in Bangalore. He contributed large sums to erect arches of welcome during the visits of several Viceroys and during the visit of H.M. The King Emperor to Bangalore.

He is a municipal commissioner and an honorary magistrate. He is the president of the Hindu Balika Patasala in the cantonment. In recognition of his public services he has been offered innumerable certificates of honour by the Viceroys and Governors.

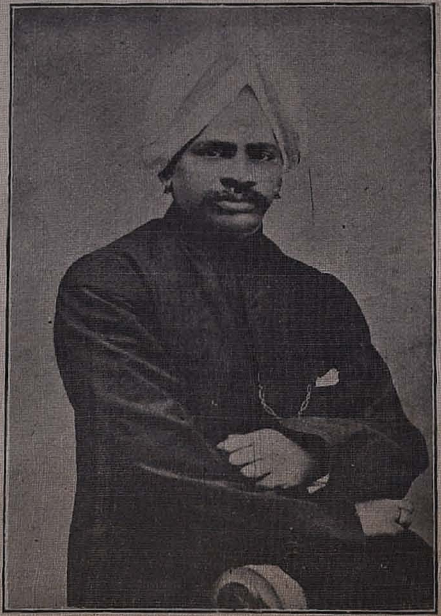
Mr. A. C. Lingaraj Urs, Srungaralahari, Lakshmipuram, Mysore City, was born at Mysore in the year 1886. He belongs to a family of musicians, which talented gift is being handed down from father to son,

A. C. Lingaraj Urs.

A. Lingaraj Urs.

A. Lingaraj Urs.

A. Thangavelu Mudaliar.



A. Muniappa Mudaliyar.
(Grand-Father of A. Thangavelu.)

Arcot Narayanaswamy Mudaliyar.

generation after generation. The grand-father of Mr. Lingaraj Urs was far renowned for his excellent and melodious music. Late Mr. Alianthur Lingaraja Urs, the grand-father of A. C. Lingaraj Urs, was born in Salivahana 1745 and was brought up by H. H. Krishnarajendra Dadigar the third. The Maharaja had him taught Sanskrit, Kanarese and Music and when he became an accomplished scholar the Maharaja gave him his two daughters in marriage. Though Lingaraj had all the advantages and comforts of a princely life, yet he led a simple and ever studious life. He was ever in the midst of scholars and pundits and was always engaged in writing new books in his own Kanarese and Sanskrit languages. He was the best among the Karnataka poets and Pundits. He was second to none in the gifted art of music. As there were always discourses in literature and music in his mansion, his servants were also able to compose verses and songs. He was a good shikari and had great skill in archery. He was above all, too charitable and rightly earned the pet name of 'Abhinava' Bhoja, or modern Bhoja.

Though it is two generations since he died, people remember the melody and charm of his music even to this day.

His two wives were also excellently versed in poetry, music, veena and silpa. There is an amusing incident told of how he came to write the Sastra of 'Alankara' the first of its kind in the world of learning. Once, his wives asked him to let them know, what the Sastra of Alankara was and he, in order to satisfy his ladies, made the then Maharaja—his own father-in-law—the subject of his work, and wrote a book on the Sastra of Alankara and called it Narapathi charitam. This soon came to the notice of the Maharaja, who immediately summoned a big audience of poets and pundits and there requested his son-in-law to read his book. Late Lingaraja Urs in accordance with the request of his Royal Master and father-in-law read the book to the audience, who were completely lost in admiration and praise and forthwith conferred on him the title of *Ubhaya Kavitha Visaradha*. He has written many other books, among which the prominent are (1) Prabhavati Swayamvara (2) Gayacharitra (3) Nalakubara Vilasa (4) Panchaviensathi Leela (5) Mahalinjasathaba (6) Sivabhaktiratnakara.

He was a great exponent and a brilliant expounder of the art of learning and amongst his pupils are eminent men like Pandit Jayacharya, Vidwan Mammiya and Kair Ayya Sastri who is a 'Kavikula Thilaka.'

He had established many choultries and they are all named after him as Lingaraja Chatrams. This illustrious person passed away in the year 1796 of Salivahana, leaving behind him, his son Mr. A. Lingaraj Urs, who is also no more.

Late Mr. A. Lingaraj Urs, the son of the famous Lingaraja Urs and the father Mr. A. C. Lingaraj Urs was a royal scholar and the classmate of H.H. the late Maharajah Chamarajendra Wodiyar. Like his father, he was a very distinguished scholar in music and could play excellently well on the violin. Though he did not leave behind by way of publications, yet, he distinguished himself and rose to the level of his beloved father in every respect.

Mr. A. C. Lingaraj Urs who was born in the year 1886, at Mysore, had his early education in the Maharajah's College at Mysore and had to leave the college in the year 1905 due to the death of his father and as he had to take up the management of his estates. As it is the distinguishing trait of the family Mr. A. C. Lingaraj Urs like his elders is also a musician.

He dovotes much of his time for the public welfare and holds many honorary offices. He is the Vice-president of The Civic and Social Progress Association of the Mysore City and the President of the Nunjaraja Bahadur Education Charities and is connected with all the public activities of the city. He is an all round sportsman and as such has excelled in many outdoor games such as polo, riding and tennis and won many trophies and shields.

Mr. Hosakoppa Krishna Rao was born of affluent parents in 1890, in a village called Addagadde in Sringeri Jahagir. He rose to eminence, very rapidly, by utilising his opportunities to the best advantage. He is the youngest of a family of eight children, six of whom all daughters came first. His father the late Mr. Addagadde Ramappa was a shrewd business man and began life as an accountant in a rich family. He started business in areca, and left a fortune for his children. He however died full of age and honors and Mr. Krishna Rao being the youngest was only 13 years. His elder brother was just 6 years older. Their father died while the sons were immature. The property was soon divided and Mr. Krishna Rao was left, even while young, to his own resources. He separated himself from his family residence and settled on his own estate (Hosakoppa, a village in Koppa Taluq) where his mother gave him a special training. He was placed under the care of the late Jagad-Guru His Holiness Shri Satchidananda Bharathi of Shri Sringeri Mutt and learnt Sanskrit and obtained proficiency in metaphysics.

His attention was however turned to politics and in his 20th year he entered the Representative Assembly and has been a member of that useful institution from 1912.

He first studied problems of Malnad a backward region in the State and the various measures now being carried by Government under the Malnad Inprovement Scheme are due mainly to his persistent exertions.

His services attracted public attention and Sir M. Visvesvarayya, that shrewd judge of men and measures encouraged him. Mr. Krishna Rao is a confirmed prohibitionist and his criticisms on the Excise policy of the Mysore Government earned for him the Presidentship of a Committee which was appointed by the Government to report on the possibilities of introducing Excise reforms to reduce drunkenness in the State. His report was approvingly received by the Government and favourably viewed by the Press. He had the honour of a visit from H. H. The Yuvaraj of Mysore, Sri Narasingharaja Wodiyar Bahadur, G.C.I.E., and he arranged an exhibition of Malnad products for His Highness' pleasure, in 1914.

He entered the Legislative Council in 1920 and was elected by a large majority on two occasions. He is a clever organiser and keen politician and would not allow grass to grow under his feet when any important political point had to be gained. He organised the Malnad Land-holders' Association which is a registered body recognised by the Government of Mysore and he has been the President of that body ever since and they discuss matters of importance affecting the progress of the State and urge their view points before the Government in a forceful manner. The Co-operative Committee of which Hon. Sir Lallubhai Samaldas Mehta was the President appreciated his labours in the matter of securing relief to the land-holders from their chronic indebtedness and the sanctioned introduction of Land Mortgage Banks is the outcome of his agitation.

He held political conferences in 1923 in the different parts of Mysore, to stir up the people and gave a shape to the Mysore Reform which formed an important step towards associating people in larger measure in the administration of the country. He also formed a Progressive Party in the Representative Assembly and it is hoped that its endeavours will soon bring about the Political advancement of the State.

He is a devout Hindu and the recent introduction of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act in Madras, gave him fresh opportunities for distinction and when every one was looking askance he focussed public opinion at Udupi and arranged a series of Hindu deputations to the Viceroys and Governors. His endeavours to repulse all unholy attacks on the Hindu Religious Institutions bore fruit and the *Panagalites* suffered a crushing defeat at the elections of 1926 in Madras.

Mr. Krishna Rao is a vigorous public worker, an ardent Congressman and a genuine lover of Khaddar. In the year 1926 he enlisted 3,500 Congress members in the Karnataka Province, under a pledged campaign undertaken by the Karnataka Branch of the Hindustani Seva Dal of which he is a Dalapathi, and his splendid work to the Congress won for him a silver shield presented by the President of the Karnataka Provincial Congress Committee, Mr. Kowjalagi Srinivas Rao and the same was presented to him by Mahatma Gandhi in April, 1927.

Mr. Krishna Rao is a radical in politics and has been educating the people by holding a series of conferences where the rights and privileges of the citizens are being explained frequently. He is a useful citizen, a kind friend and a trusted public worker, a bold and uncompromising fighter for popular rights and has definite views about the place of Indian States, subjects in the coming evolution of India.

Circumscribed as Indian States generally are, there is not the same scope for political activities of their subjects as in British India, for various reasons, and in that limited scope and within a short period Mr. Hasakoppa Krishna Rao has outshone his contemporaries and colleagues. He has very good opportunities for public work and has been utilising them for the progress of his country.

Nemiraja Padival of Jail Road, Mangalore, is the son of the late Mr. K. Kanthukadamaba of Iravathur in South Canara. Late Mr. Kanthukadamaba was a Zamindar and belonged to the Jain community for whose amelioration he endeavoured his best.

Mr. Nemiraja Padival was born in the year 1886 at Kallamundakar in South Canara. He had his early education in Kallamundakar and Karakoil and he was taught English privately at home. He entered life in his eighteenth year and started private business in the year 1920. Mr. Padival like his father does his best for the uplift of the Jain community. He is an educationist and his endowments for the spread of education are varied. He maintained a Sanskrit school at Karakoil which is now converted into a hostel. He also maintains at his own cost a separate hostel fully equipped with furniture at Mangalore for the Jain students. He was a Taluq Board member and now he is the Secretary of the Jain Dharma Jimodharaka Sangha, Limited.

V. V. Vedappen Servai Avergal, Honorary Magistrate and Village Munsiff, is the headman of the village of Karaikudi, which belongs to the Zamindar of Sivaganga in the district of Ramnad. Mr. Vedappen Servai comes of an old and respectable family whose ancestors were themselves the founders of the village, having cleared the wild forests in the prehistoric days. It was in recognition of this founding of the village that the then Rajas bestowed on the ancestors of our Vedappen Servai the title of Servai accompanied with many other ceremonial honours. There is also a temple in the village dedicated to the deity "Kappudayanaki," and in

V. V. Vedappen Servai (page 54)

C. K. Subramaniam Pillay (page 55)

P. Virayya Garu (page 56)

K. Gopalakrishnayya Chowdhury (page 57)

K. R. Somayaji Garu (page 56)

this temple annual festivities take place on the day on which the title of Servai was conferred on the ancestors of Mr. Vedappen Servai.

The Government of Madras, in recognition of his lineage, respect and honour, through the Collector of the district appointed Mr. Vedappen Servai as the headman of the village, and Mr. Servai had been creditably discharging his duties to the entire satisfaction of his superiors and to the public around him. In recognition of his excellent discharge of his duties he has been offered a Certificate of Honour in the year 1920, by the Estate Collector and in further recognition of his greatness he was appointed as an honorary magistrate of the first class bench court of Karaikudi.

Mr. Vedappen Servai is also a charitable gentleman and he rendered service to the public by way of charity, according to the principles laid down by the Sastras. He has dug a big tank in the village and constructed a temple dedicated to god Vinayaka and Subramania. Pooja is performed in the temple and annual festivals are celebrated with great eclat. Mr. Servai himself is one of the members of the committee of trustees appointed to look after the affairs of the temple.

Mr. Vedappen Servai is blessed with wealth and wisdom and with a good family of children.

Rao Bahadur P. Narayana Menon Avergal, Dewan of Cochin, Ernakulam, is the son of Kappana Pudiyedath Krishna Menon and was born on the 24th of June in the year 1864. He had his early education in the Ernakulam College at Ernakulam, and then went over to Madras for his arts course and took his B. A. degree from the Presidency College in the year 1887.

After his educational course he joined the Government Secretariat, Madras on the 4th August, 1887 and after fourteen years' service he was appointed a Deputy Collector in December 1901. As Deputy Collector he was outside the city for some time and after a period was taken back once again into the Capital city itself as the Assistant Secretary to the Board of Revenue. He held several high offices while in the city, such as the Assistant Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery, Collector of Income-tax and the Presidency Magistrate and finally Secretary to the Board, Settlement Department. He retired from the British Service in March 1921.

His services did not end with his retirement from the British Service, for he soon attracted the notice and attention of His Highness the Maharajah of Cochin. His Highness found in him a fit and capable administrator to be entrusted with so high an office as that of the Dewan of his own State, and Rao Bahadur Narayana Menon was appointed as such on the 13th of April in the year 1922.

In recognition of his meritorious public services he was made a Rao Bahadur in 1917 and a Companion of the Imperial Service Order in June 1921.

Chavadi K. Subramaniam Pillay, M. L. C., Tinnevelly Town, is the son of late Mr. Chavadi N. Kootha Nainar Pillay, the Mittadar of Nachikulam, Tinnevelly District and comes of a very wealthy family. Late Mr. Chavadi N. Kootha Nainar Pillay was a public man in his days and was connected with all the activities of the local bodies. He was an honorary magistrate, the vice-president of the Local Municipal Council and a member of the Local Boards. Mr. Chavadi N. Kootha Nainar Pillay in recognition of his loyalty to the British Government and his meritorious public services was awarded a Certificate of Merit in 1877 by the British Government.

Mr. Chavadi K. Subramaniam Pillay was born in 1881 at Tinnevelly and was educated in the local Hindu College up to the Matriculation class. While he was still at school at a comparatively young age his father died and Mr. Subramaniam Pillay was obliged to take over the management of his property in his nineteenth year. Ever since he took up the management of the property he has been managing it excellently well, adding steadily and improving it at every turn so much so that he is now one of the wealthiest landlords in Tinnevelly, who pays a Government *bariz* of Rs. 4,000 per annum.

Like his father Mr. Subramaniam Pillay takes very great interest in all the public movements and in this connection is very well known throughout the District. He is an elected member of the Municipal Council for the last fifteen years and an elected member of the Tinnevelly Taluq Board for more than twelve years. He was the vice-president of the Taluq Board for the last four years. Again for over twelve years he is the elected member of the Tinnevelly District Board. He is an elected member of the Tinnevelly Educational Council for the last three years as a representative of the Taluq Board. He was the patron and president of the Tinnevelly Vellalah Kalvi Sangam for the year 1925 and is now a patron and vice-president of the Saiva Mata Alaya Paripalana Sangam Elawji, Tinnevelly District. He is also the patron and vice-president of the Karkathar Sangam for the uplift of the Karkathar community. He is now a member of the Madras Legislative Council from November 1923 elected by the Tinnevelly Urban Constituency. In 1925 he was elected by the Madras Legislative Council as a member of the Public Accountants Committee. He has been nominated in January 1924 by His Excellency Rt. Hon'ble Sir Freeman Thomas Baron Willingdon of Rattan, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., G. B. E., Governor of Madras, as a member of the Standing Advisory Committees for

Agricultural, Co-operation and Veterinary Departments to advise the Government on important matters connected with them.

Mr. Pillay is a pious and devout man and is always bent on doing good to the public. He has liberally subscribed to the War Fund, Tinnevelly Flood Relief Fund and the Local Hindu College, for the opening of the B. A. class. He has also endowed landed property worth Rs. 25,000 in Nayinar Kulam village, Ambasamudram Taluq, Tinnevelly District for the performance of Vinayaka puja and for feeding poor travellers.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon, A. I. E. and A. S. I. E., Ratna Vilas, Trichur, comes of a royal family, being the second son of H. H. Sri Sir Rama-Varma, G. C. I. E., the present Maharajah of Cochin. He was born in the year 1898 at Tripunathar, the residence of H. H. the Maharajah of Cochin.

He had a brilliant course of education and was marked for his intelligence during his school days. He was the youngest boy in all the classes. He matriculated from the Thripunathara High School in the year 1912. Then he went over to Madras and passed out his Intermediate examination from the Presidency College in the year 1914, and finally graduated from the Engineering College at Madras in the year 1918.

After his successful collegiate course he served as an apprentice in the Tata Hydro-Electric Company at Bombay for over an year and a half. Then his ideas went towards his native home and hence returned to serve his own State, and in the year 1920 took up the post of the Mechanical Electrical Engineer in the Cochin State.

After a brief period of service he went to America in the year 1921 and worked in the General Electric Company for two years. He is a good motorist and travelled throughout the United States only in a motor car. He returned to Cochin in the year 1923 and took up his permanent appointment, which he continued to hold for an year more. He was promoted to be the Chief Engineer of the State in the year 1924.

He is a good sportsman and loves cricket immensely. He is also a very good horseman and the best of all his hobbies is motoring. As a sportsman he got some medals in the Inter-Collegiate competition for swimming.

He is a freemason of the Lodge Minchin of Trivandrum and when he was in America he was the secretary of the Cosmopolitan Technical Society.

N. Koman Nair, B. A., B. L., High Court Vakil, Palghat, is the son of the late Mr. Korgot Sekharan Nair, and comes of a respectable family. Late Sekharan Nair was a landlord and nominated member of the District and Taluk Boards.

Mr. Koman Nair was born in the year 1874 at Manjaprey in the Palghat Taluk of the Malabar District. He had a brilliant educational career, and passed all his examinations with distinction. He passed the Matriculation examination from the Government College, Calicut, and took his B.A. degree from the Presidency College, Madras. Then he studied for law and took his B. L. degree from out of the Madras Law College. He was an apprentice under Mr. J. L. Rozario, sometime acting Advocate General. After his apprentice course was over he settled at Palghat and set up his practice since the year 1902.

Mr. Koman Nair is a great student of law and he devotes all his time for its study. Ever since he started he has been building up his legal practice by leaps and bounds. His legal advice is widely sought for by the general public, and he is loved and held in esteem, both by the clientele and the general public. Mr. Koman Nair is so very busy with the ever increasing practice that he has barely time enough to attend to any other public work.

Mr. Koman Nair is a great lover of music. He was once a municipal councillor, and gave it up in preference to the increasing demand of his profession on his time. He has been repeatedly requested by the public to compete for the municipal elections, but Mr. Nair's love of his profession was so great that it predominated over any other avocation.

Mr. Peddibhotla Virayya Garu, B.A., B.L., Pleader, District Board, Bezwada, was born on the 28th of December in the year 1874 at Manchichalapudi, in the Tenali Taluk of the Guntur District. Mr. Peddibhotla Virayya Garu comes of a family that suffered much during the Dhatu famine. He belongs to a family of four brothers which then enlisted the sympathy of many of their relations and friends, who helped them a great deal in their distress.

Mr. P. Virayya had a distinguished educational career, and always stood first in every examination. He had his early education at Bezwada, where he passed the Matriculation examination with much credit in January 1891. Then he was obliged to rest a while, for he had an attack of Malaria and his health suffered much. After a brief period of recoupment he joined the Masulipatam College for his F. A. course and passed it in first class in the year 1893. Then he went over to Madras and joined the Presidency College for his B.A. course which he passed in 1896. Then he entered the Revenue Board as a clerk and while so employed he studied for Law and took his B.L. degree from the Madras Law College in the year 1899. He was the recipient of several prizes for proficiency in the subjects.

He first settled in masulipatam as a pleader but on account of medical advice he was obliged to change over to Bezwada in the year 1905. He is an

P. Narayana Menon (page 55)

K. Koman Nair (page 56)

M. Kalidasu Garu (page 59)

Dr. S. Venkata Row (page 60)

assiduous practitioner and he achieved remarkable success in his profession, and he is now the leader of the bar. For his extreme depth of legal knowledge he has been elected as the President of the Bar Association and in that capacity he continued for twelve years. As a lawyer he has worked gratis to several of his poor clients.

He is also an eminent local leader. He organised the District Associations and District Conferences, and was the president of the first Bhimavaram Taluk Conference. He is an ardent disciple and student of our late revered countryman Lokamanya Tilak. He attended the Surat Congress and many of Lokamanya's lectures. He is a faithful believer in Karmayoga and Githa Rahasyam. He rendered into Telugu late Lokamanya's Githa Rahasyam.

He specially studied astronomy and astrology and he presided over the All-India Astrological Conference held at Cocanada in December 1923.

He is much interested in Telugu Literature. He published criticism on Pothana's whereabouts, which book was prescribed by the Madras University as a text-book for the B. A. examination for the year 1926. He has rendered into Telugu the Commercial and Industrial History of England, Japan, and America with a view to make the Andhras understand how the other nations have progressed. He conducted for a time the *Kistna Patricka* on behalf of the District Association and regularly contributed to the Telugu press for a very long time.

He is scrupulously conservative in religion and is an orthodox Brahmin of the old type. He has a difference of opinion in the problem of untouchability question. He is opposed to non-co-operation and is of opinion that it leads to anarchy. He is also opposed to widow re-marriage as it is much against Shastras and holds that reformers must form a separate colony.

He has faith in yoga practice as tending to happiness and longevity in life. He spends his leisure hours to set right the religious and charitable institutions in the District. He was the president of the Charitable Endowments Committee for the past five years in the Bezwada Taluk.

Rao Bahadur Korelamoody Gopalakrishnayya Chowdhury Garu, B.A., Pleader, Bezwada, is the son of K. Nagabushanam Garu, who was an agriculturist and merchant at Kolavenny in the Kistna District. Late K. Nagabhushanam was an agriculturist to begin with but he started a new line of profession by taking to business, leaving out his usual avocation of farming, so much so he was the pioneer in the community to take to business. He was doing business in cotton, tobacco, paddy, cocoanut, and other provisions. Soon he built up good business and was one of the leading merchants in the city respected by one and all.

He took very great interest in all the local movements and in the civic needs of the city. He was a member of the local Municipal Council in its early days. He was an active and influential member of the Vijayarwada Sabha, started for the purpose of safeguarding the interests of the public. He was held in high esteem in the locality and was invariably selected as an arbitrator in all the local disputes, when he used to decide the questions without the least partiality whatever, to the satisfaction and appreciation of either parties. He was a potent factor in the civic life of the city.

He was an excellent Telugu scholar and was well versed in the study of our ancient epics.

Rao Bahadur K. Gopalakrishnayya Garu was born in the year 1882 at Kolavenny, the family seat and an important centre of archaeological interest. He was early educated in a pial school and when he was ten years of age he was sent over to Bezwada, where he joined the Municipal Elementary School. Later he joined the C. M. High School, Bezwada, from where he passed his Matriculation examination in the year 1902. Then he went to Masulipatam for his Collegiate Course, and passed out his F. A. examination from the Nabob College from where he took his B.A. degree in the year 1906.

As a student he was very brilliant and was a distinguished scholar, which characteristic feature is predominant in him even to this day. While in the High School he carried away all the prizes allotted to students passing in first class. While in the College he always took a prominent lead in all the Debating and College Societies, and for sometime was their secretary. He also got a gold medal for general proficiency in English. He was a prodigy in Telugu and has composed many verses to befit ceremonial occasions in the College. Almost all the prizes accorded for proficiency in Telugu never passed out of his hands. His verses are sung even to this day.

Besides all his intellectual equipments, in the field of sports, too, the College claimed in him a very good gamester. He was an excellent champion in Football and Tennis.

After he had completed his general Arts course he studied for law and passed the pleadership examination. Afterwards he went over to Bezwada, where he set up practice. He has been shining well in the profession, and now he is commanding a lucrative practice.

He is an active public worker and spends much of his time over it. He holds many honorary offices and endeavours a great deal for the improvement of the local self-government department. He was a member of the Local Taluk Board, and the District Board, and was the President of the Taluk Board. He is now a member of the Local Municipal Council. He is also a prominent educationist and

is a lso endeavouring a great deal for the education and uplift of his own community. He takes a great interest in the improvement of the libraries, and in fact has added standard volumes to the local library and has improved it a great deal. He has presided over several library annual gatherings. He was the President of the Co-operative Conference of the Kistna District. He started the Kamma Maha Jana Sangham for the amelioration and benefit of the community. He raised a large fund by public subscription, to enable students of the community to further their education and now we are glad to say that we find many graduates in the community. He built up a hostel for the Kamma students at a huge cost of Rs. 50,000 for which funds were again raised by puplic subscription and from influential members of the community. He is now one of the leading members of the non-Brahmin movement, along with Sir K.V. Reddy and Sir A. P. Patro.

He is a Telugu scholar from his student days and has written many books on the burning topics of the day. He published a book on non-co-operation in Telugu which is an analytical criticism on the movement. He also published another book in Telugu on the principles and methods of taxation for the benefit of the Telugu knowing public and one other book in English on the Indian Political craze. He is a constitutionalist and was on the Madras Legislative Council from 1921 to 1923, when he discussed questions concerning Agriculture, Revenue, Irrigation and the Local Boards.

In recognition of his public services the Government was pleased to confer on him the title of Rao Bahadur on the 2nd January, 1922. We are sure that many more honours await Mr. Gopalakrishnayya Garu, who has many more years of useful service to the public.

Royaprolu Linga Somayaji Garu, B.A., B.L., Vakil, Agraharam, Guntur, is the son of Somayaji Venkatramana Sastrulu of Guntur. Somayaji Venkatramana Sastrulu was born of a poor family, in the Bapatla Taluk of the Guntur District. He was taken in adoption by the well-known Royaprolu family of Guntur, well noted for its vedic learning and Yaga performances. Mr. Somayaji Venkatramana Sastri is a sound scholar in Tharka Vedanta, and an eloquent and popular expounder of the Puranas. Through his erudition and wisdom he commanded the respect and esteem of the general public. He performed a great Yagam or sacrifice in 1914, unique of its kind in the present epoch.

Mr. Linga Somayaji was born in the year 1883 at Guntur. He had his early education in the Guntur College. He is a graduate in Physical Science and took his B.A. degree in the year 1906. As a student he had a brilliant career and won many prizes in almost every class. He won a medal for proficiency in English in the Matriculation class. He also had the distinction of being presented with the Tholchivari medal. In the F.A. examination he got many prizes for merit and proficiency in the languages and for the B.A. course he enjoyed the unique honour of being awarded with the Madras Christian College Scholarship.

After he took his degree he served his *Alma Mater* as a teacher for over two and a half years and then gave up the profession in preference to the bar. He took the B.L. degree in 1914 and settled and set up practice at Guntur. Since then he had been gradually commanding a good practice and especially on the civil side his practice has so developed that he stands unrivalled.

As a public man he is a municipal councillor and in that capacity has endeavoured his best to introduce several reforms. He is a member of the Town High School Committee and the Joint Secretary of the District Association of Guntur. He is the founder and member of the Young Men's Literary Association.

He spends his leisure hours in the study of English and Sanskrit to which he has a special aptitude.

Juluru Venkataratnam Pantulu Garu, is the adopted son of the late Mr. J. Appa Rao Pantulu Garu, M.A., B.L., and comes of a respectable family. Late Mr. J. Appa Rao Pantulu Garu was born at Cocanada in the year 1830 and belonged to the Madhwa Vaishnavite community, well versed in divine philosophy and all religious matters. He received no English education but later in life he picked up a good knowledge in English. He left his native place of Cocanada in the year 1860 and went over to Guntur as partner of Messrs. F. W. Bowden and Co., who were the wealthiest cotton merchants then, in Guntur.

Mr. Appa Rao himself very soon developed business talents and soon became a first class business man. He had dealings with expert and prominent Indian and European firms in India. He was a tip-top businessman and as such he won the esteem and admiration of one and all in the locality.

Besides his business he took keen interest in all the local public movements and activities. He endowed many charities for the benefit of the poor and the needy and founded an Annasatram (free feeding house) and acquired in its name landed property and houses worth a lakh of rupees with an annual income of Rs. 3,000 for the maintenance of the institution. He also took keen interest in the spread of secondary education and was for over twenty years the President of one of the popular institutions in the Presidency—the local Town High School. As becoming of the family he also took

very great interest in the study of the Indian scriptures and had made a very critical study of the Mahabharatha and was considered to be an authority on matters relating thereto. He used to be frequently resorted to by Pundits for information and enlightenment on the subject. He was a member of the Temple Committee for several decades and effected several reforms in the administration of the Mangalageri Devasthanam, an ancient institution, in the Guntur District. After having rendered all possible service to the cause of the country and the public he passed away in the year 1914.

Late Mr. J. Venkatasubba Rao Garu, M.A., B.L., the brother of Mr. J. Venkataratnam Pantulu Garu, and the brother's grandson of the late Mr. Appa Rao Garu, was born at Guntur in the year 1884. He had his early education in the Town High School at Guntur. He went over to Madras for his collegiate course and joined the Madras Presidency College wherefrom he passed his B.A. examination in the year 1904 and M.A. in the year 1906. Later he studied for law and in the year 1908 he passed his B.L. examination. Throughout his University course he was a brilliant and distinguished student. He won two University medals, the one being the Prince of Wales medal and the other the Bisani Subbaraya Chetty's medal for proficiency in Botany. Soon after he took his M.A. degree, he was for some time a probationary extra Assistant Conservator of Forests. While he was in that department, he had frequent attacks of malarial fever and hence he resigned the appointment and it was afterwards that he studied for law and passed his B.L. examination. He set up practice at Guntur and after two years in August in the year 1914, to the great sorrow of all, he passed away due to an attack of splenic dropsy.

Mr. J. Venkataratnam Pantulu Garu, as aforesaid, is the brother of the late Mr. J. Venkatasubba Rao Garu, M.A., B.L., and he adopted the son of the late Mr. J. Appa Rao Pantulu Garu. He was born at Guntur in February in the year 1886. He was educated in the local Town High School at Guntur and was sent over to Pitapuram Maharajah's College for higher education wherefrom he passed his F.A. examination in 1909.

After the completion of studies he entered life and took over the management of the estates and the ancestral property in the year 1914. Mr. J. Venkataratnam Pantulu Garu like his father takes very great interest in all the local movements and public activities. The excellent running of the many local institutions stand to his credit a great deal. He was the honorary manager of the Town High School, Guntur, from the year 1916 to 1924. Of his excellent management we need say nothing except merely to quote some passages that appeared in the annual reports of the school and in the addresses presented to him. Of his brilliant service as the honorary manager of the school some of the school records run as follows:—

"The school has turned out satisfactory work during the year 1919 and has achieved satisfactory results at the Public Examination."

Besides several personal tributes in a certain address it was said, "It must be a great satisfaction to you and to your committee that things are going on so well with the old school and it must be a matter of satisfaction to you especially, for, permit me to say, that you have allowed yourself to be spent for the school, working for it with a will and utmost enthusiasm. I am so glad the deficit has been paid off and the staff strengthened."

Besides these from time to time the proceedings of the Town High School Committee, and the annual reports of several years pay him a very high tribute for his services to the school. During the vigilant period of non-co-operation he worked a great deal for the upkeep of the institution and it is due to his exertions that the school now occupies a very unique position in the whole of the Andhra Desa.

He is very much interested in all the local movements and endeavours much for their improvement and well-being. He has been the executive trustee of the Mangalageri Devasthanam from the year 1920, and the president of the Co-operative Urban Bank from the year 1919 to 1924. He is also the director of the Guntur Merchants' Cotton Press Company, Limited, from the year 1922.

In all the movements he is connected with, wherever he goes, and whatever work he undertakes, he has proved his ability and capacity as a very good administrator, and he has been receiving many glorious tributes from all the public bodies he is connected with. Mr. Venkataratnam Pantulu is quite young and has many more years of useful service to his fellowmen and to the country at large.

Mr. Venkataratnam Pantulu has a younger brother, Mr. Jayaram Pantulu, a distinguished graduate of the Madras University. He also won two medals while at College. He is now holding a responsible Government post as an Income-Tax officer.

M. Kalidasu Garu, B.A., B.L., High Court Vakil, Bapatla, is the son of late Madhavapeddi Ramaswami Garu of Brahmanakoduru village in the District of Guntur. Late Madhavapeddi Ramaswami Garu was a landlord, and was a very charitable personage. He had built in his village a Matam for Yogis. He died in the year 1922.

Mr. Kalidasu Garu was born in the year 1889 in the family residence at Brahmanakoduru. He had his education in the Guntur A.E.L.M. College and passed out his Matriculation examination from there in the year 1906. He went over to Madras for higher studies and took his B.A. degree from the

Madras Christian College in the year 1911. Then he studied for Law and took his B.L. degree in the year 1913, from the Madras Law College. Throughout his educational career he was a brilliant and efficient student and has won many prizes. After his collegiate course was over he underwent the apprentice course under Mr. P. Narayanamurthy, B.A., B.L., High Court Vakil, Madras. Throughout his educational career his maternal uncle, Guntur Venkatasubbarayudu, helped him a great deal financially and otherwise, and Mr. Kalidasu Garu is much indebted to him.

After his career at Madras was over, he returned to Guntur and first set up practice there, in the year 1915, and later changed over to Bapatla in the year 1920, subsequently after the opening of the Sub-Court there. Since then he has been building up good practice and he was the secretary of the Bar Association for sometime. He is now the vice-president of the Bar Association. He is also the leader of the Bar at Bapatla at present.

He is a good scholar and takes a keen interest in the study of English Literature, Sanskrit Literature and Philosophy.

He is a public worker and a great Congressman. He is fond of khadder and does his best to solve poverty problem. He is ever in favour of Congress creeds and he has helped it a great deal with finance. He is the secretary of the District Association of Guntur, a member of the Local Municipal Council, and a member of the Committee of the Sanskrit High School at Guntur. He is also a member of the Dhathatreya Sanskrit School Committee and has also endowed the Institution with Scholarships.

He is a good sportsman from his schooldays, which hobby he continues even to this day. He has won many medals in Tennis, from the South Indian Athletic Association, and from the Y.M.C.A. at Madras in the years 1910 and 1912.

Dr. S. Venkata Row, L.M.S., Registered Medical Practitioner, Agraharam, Guntur, is the son of the late Sankara Virabhadra Row Pantulu Garu of Mustahada in the Kistna District. Late S. Virabhadra Row Pantulu Garu was a Supervisor of Schools in the District of Ganjam and after his retirement he became the manager of the Parlakimidi Municipality. He had great skill in the scrutinous examination of Gold, Diamonds and Silk.

Dr. Venkata Row was born in the year 1889 at Chicacole in the Ganjam District. He passed his Matriculation examination in the year 1906 from Rajah's College, Parlakimidi. He passed his F.A. examination in the year 1908 and joined the Madras Medical College for professional study. He took his L.M. & S. degree in 1914 and then entered the Government service as an assistant surgeon in 1915. After working in the several branches and wards of the General Hospital at Madras, he grew disgusted with the Government service and finally resigned it in 1917 and set up practice at Guntur. His zeal, skill and devotion to his profession have been so great that he now commands an unwieldy practice.

He is interested in civic affairs and is a member of the Municipal Council. He has a like and taste to the histrionic arts and is the president of the Official Dramatic Club at Guntur. He studies Indian Philosophy with a special aptitude and taste.

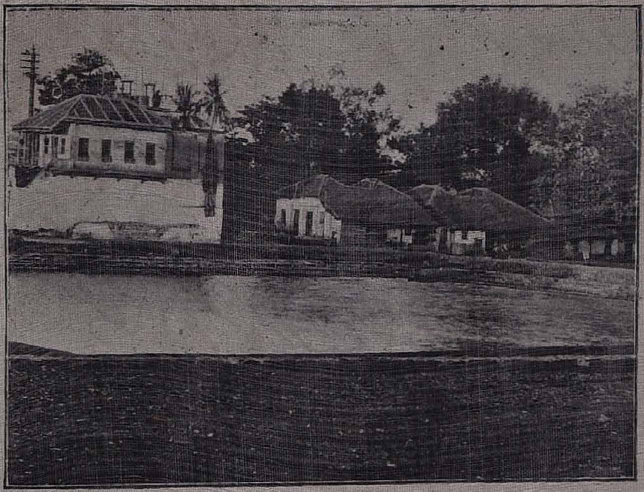
He is a fine player of Tennis and as such has won many prizes and medals during his collegiate and school course.

Mr. Koduru Chandrasekaram Pantulu Garu, B.A., Retired Deputy Superintendent of Police, Guntur, is the son of the late Seethiah Garu of Narakodur village in the Guntur District. Late Seethiah Garu was the Karnam of Kodur for over fifty years. Mr. Chandrasakeram Pantulu was born on the 15th September in year 1867 at Narakodur. He had his rudiments of study in the pial schools at Vejandla and Narakodur after which he went over to Guntur for further study. At Guntur he came under the influence of M. R. Ry. Akkanapragada Subbarayudu Garu, who took a delight in him and undertook his upbringing and education. Mr. Akkanapragada Subbarayudu Garu was a very influential man as he was the Village Munsiff, Municipal Councillor and Bench-Magistrate, for over a number of years. Young Kodur Chandrasekaram was admitted into the A. E. L. M. College at Guntur where he passed his Matriculation examination in the year 1883. After Matriculation examination he went over to Madras for higher education and joined the Madras Christian College, wherefrom he took his B.A. degree in the year 1888. As a student he was very brilliant, which feature lasted throughout his career. He won many prizes both in F.A. and the B.A. classes for high proficiency in Telugu.

After his education was over he entered life as a teacher in his old College, the A.E.L.M. College, Guntur, in the year 1889. As a teacher he was remarkably successful and was awarded an efficiency certificate. After quitting the teacher's post he entered the government service as a probationary Police inspector in the Kurnool District in the year 1891. After having been on probation for four years he was made permanent and posted as the prosecuting inspector at Kurnool. From Kurnool he was transferred to the Godavari District in the year 1901, on a promotion to a higher grade. As a prosecuting inspector he served for 11 years during which period his salary was steadily raised to Rs. 250 per month. In the year 1912 in recognition of his merits and services, he was appointed a deputy superintendent in which capacity he served for twelve years in several districts such as Nellore, Anantapur, Cuddalore and Vizagapatam. His salary

K. Chandrasekaram Pantulu
(page 60)

C. Venkatanarasayya
(page 61)



Guntur Reservoir (page.61)

N. Pattabhiramiah

N. Desarathαramiah

N. Sitaramiah

at the end of his services was Rs. 600 per mensem. After active service of full thirty years he retired from the Government service on the 25th of December in the year 1924 and permanently settled at Guntur since then.

As a zealous officer, with a high sense of duty, he had a brilliant and honourable career during all these thirty years he was in the Government service. As a detective police officer he has rendered meritorious service in the Arts College defalcation case. In connection with this case in all the District Administration reports a special note is made in high appreciation and praise of Mr. Chandrasekaram Pantulu. There was a special Government order conveying special thanks to him for his good service. At the close of the trial the trying judge himself personally complimented Mr. Chandrasekaram Pantulu on his able detection. He successfully detected a sensational forgery case in which one N. C. Jagannatha Iyengar was the accused. In recognition of this the Government awarded him a gold medal worth Rs. 1,000 and a thanksgiving letter in the G. O. No. 967 of the 12th June, 1911, was sent to him. The judge recommended him for promotion, which was offered to him in his appointment as the deputy superintendent in 1912 the very next year. While he was the deputy superintendent at Kovur there was the much talked of Kovur rioting, in which the conflict between the Muslims and the Hindus rose to a pitch when Mr. Chandrasekaram put down the rioting and brought the conflict to an end. The Collector of Nellore, the Deputy Inspector General and the Inspector General all thanked him for this timely alertness and the yeoman service rendered to the maintenance of the public peace. In the years 1907 and 1908 there were many sham provident funds started with a view to dupe the public and Mr. Chendrasekarm Pantulu, as was ever the case with him, early perceived too well the deceitful intentions of the parties and so successfully brought to book and nipped the evil root at its very bud. While Mr. Chandrasekaram was in the Godavari District, there was started a movement in the year 1901 called the Agnikulakshatriya movement, which promoted and embittered the communal feelings between the Pallas and the Marakais, for each desired to style themselves as the Agnikulakshatriyas. As a sequel to this there ensued a rioting in 1901 at Narasapur. Prompt to the occasion Mr. Chandrasekaram once again moved to the spot immediately, and by his able dispersion of the crowd and quick detection and arrest of the outlaws he brought the breach to peace.

There are very few men in the police department with such high sense of duty, unshrinking energy, and a rare sense of honor. For his pains he has earned a good and unblemished record of meritorious service, the thanks and good will of the Government and his superiors and above all the esteem and love of the public.

He is interested in Telugu literature and has written a book called 'Badrachalayakeshagana Prabhandam' which was first written by the grandfather of his wife. He has studied astrology well and he is well up in the science.

He has a son Mr. Kodur Venkatasubba Row, B.A., B.L., who is a lawyer and a son-in-law of Mr. A. Seethapathi Row, B.A., B.L., also a lawyer. Both of them are shining in their honourable profession.

Mr. Chella Venkatanarasiah, Bar-at-Law, of Coimbatore, was born in the year 1826 at Chittoor. He was early educated in Shimoga in Mysore State and was a distinguished student and won many prizes. He had his higher education in the Madras Presidency College. After completing his education in India he left for England in the year 1897, to compete for the I.C.S. in which he was not successful. He tried for a second time when he was disqualified as being above age. Then he joined the Inner Temple and studied for law, and after qualifying himself as a barrister he returned to India in 1884. Soon after he was called to the bar and was enrolled as an advocate of the Mysore Chief Court in 1884 and as the advocate of the Madras High Court in the year 1885. He then removed to Coimbatore and after settling there began to practise from the year 1887, and steadily built up extensive practice and is now the leader of the bar.

Mr. Chella Venkatanarasiah comes of a distinguished family. He is the nephew of the well-known Meenakshiah, Judge of the Mysore Chief Court, and on his wife's side he is connected with the Hon'ble Sir P. Rajagopala Chariar Kt., and Mr. A. P. Srinivasan, a pioneer Brahmin convert and subordinate judge. All the daughters of Chella Venkatanarasiah are well educated.

His wife, Mrs. Kamalam V. Narasiah, who is no more was a cultured lady and a social figure in Coimbatore. She was the president of the European Ladies' Association in Coimbatore and was the connecting link between the European and the Indian ladies. She was a member of the church choir and for some years was the choir mistress. Her social activities were many and she was a popular and a welcome figure at all social functions of both Indian and European.

Mr. Chella Venkatanarasiah, by birth a Brahmin, became a Christian in 1879 when in England. He is a freemason of the Lodge Kerala, and has been lay trustee of the Anglican Church in Coimbatore for over twenty years. As a Christian of realised responsibility he is a member of all the civic bodies, such as the Municipality, the Taluk and the District Boards. He is a fond spectator of the game of Cricket and his extensive compound is available for each and every tournament.

Kodur Brahma Sastri, Pleader, Bellary, is the son of the late Kodur Rajeswara Sastriar of Bellary. Late K. Rajeswara Sastriar is well known to the public of Bellary as the famous Ayurvedic physician.

Mr. Brahma Sastri was born on the 13th of October in the year 1873. He had his early education in the then existent Wardlaw College, under the able management of Mr. J. P. Cotelingam. After his Arts course he studied for the pleadership examination, and finally settled at Bellary to practise.

As a public worker he is a member of the several local bodies. He is member of the executive committee of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, Bellary, and a municipal councillor. He is the secretary of the Hindu Temple Committee. He is also the president of the District Educational Council.

His philanthropic attitude is disposed towards reforming the guilty and the criminal. He daily goes to the Central Jail to preach to the convicts and he has been doing it for the past eight years.

He is a devotee of high order, and is well versed in Hindu Philosophy. Most of his leisure hours are spent in reading Vedanta and Hindu Philosophy.

Mr. Ketaraju Suryanarayana Row Garu, Agraharam, Guntur, is the son of Narasimha Row, and comes of a very ancient family, very well known in the locality for its great charitable works. The prominent member of this family in the early years of its eminence was the late Ketaraju Jagannadham Pantulu, the great grandfather of Ketaraju Suryanarayana Row Garu. Late Ketaraju Jagannadham Pantulu Garu was the son of Venkataramiah Pantulu, Government pleader at Masulipatam and was born in the year 1825. He was early educated at Guntur and after his education at the age of eighteen he joined the old Krishna District Collectorate as a clerk, from whence afterwards he was posted as a Sheristadar of the District Court of the same district located at Guntur. He resigned the Government service, after twenty years of service, and immediately after he was taken as the Dewan in the Nuzvid Zamindari. As an official his work was more than satisfactory and was highly appreciated.

Late Jagannadham Pantulu is very well known and the fame and renown that he has won is all due to the immense charities and the services that he had rendered to the public at large. During his regime of twelve years as Sheristadar he contributed about a lakh and a half rupees towards charities. He gave away houses and house plots to several poor families, irrespective of caste or creed He constructed several choultries for the convenience of travellers and pilgrims at important centres such as Chebrole, Jaggaralamudi, Seetanagaram and Guntur. At Guntur he reconstructed an old and dilapidated temple of Sri Narasimhaswami exactly after the model of the temples at Srirangam in South India, for he was much struck with the South Indian temples and their architecture. He improved the temple in every way and the annual car festival of the temple attracts a large number of devotees from various parts. Besides these the greatest of his works is the construction of the big water reservoir, the area of which is about 50 yards square and 120 feet deep. It is a monumental achievement and stands to the ample credit and to the great name of Ketharaju Jagannadham Pantulu Garu, and is called the '*Pantulavari Koneru.*' It supplies water to more than one half of the town, and ever since its existence it was never dry, but once, when the people of Guntur very keenly felt and intensely suffered the scarcity of water. Had it not been for this reservoir the people would have been be put to suffering repeatedly year after year.

He was very orthodox and religious, and had travelled throughout South India, visiting every sacred shrine, and wherever he went he was marked for charity, for which his name still lives amongst the poor. It was he who first found the Argaharam and made it fit for habitation. Unfortunately this great benevolent personage passed away in the year 1873, without issue, and the property went to his nephew, Suryanarayana Row.

Mr. Suryanarayana Row kept up the dignity of the family and continued all the charities maintained by his elders. He was for sometime the Sheristadar in Guntur and passed away leaving behind him four sons, who are in order Venkatramiah, Narsimha Row, Ramachendra Row and Seetharamiah.

The first son, Mr. Venkatramiah was for some time the trustee of the temple, the second son, Mr. Narasimha Row was a contractor in Abkari and opium and the third son, Mr. Ramachandra Row is a landlord and the fourth son, Mr. Seetharamiah is a pleader.

Surayanarayana Row, as aforesaid, is the son of Mr. Narasimha Row, the eldest son to the nephew of the late great Etharaju Jagannadham Pantulu Garu. He is now thirty years of age and is the headmaster of the A.E.L.M. Agraharam Branch School, Guntur. He has a brother, Mr. Venkateswarulu who is a pleader at Guntur.

Mr. Nadimpalli Seetharamiah Garu, Pleader, Arundelpet, Guntur, is the son of Nadimpalli Pattabhiramiah Garu and the grandson of Venkatakrishniah, an Ayurvedic physician of great fame and comes of an Aruvela Niyogi Brahmin family. The family to which Mr. N. Seetharamiah belongs is a very respectable and ancient one belonging to the Veenava village in the Taluk of Guntur in the same District.

The family is well known for the traditional study and pursuit of Ayurvedic system of medicine and for its Ayurvedic medical practitioners.

Mr. Nadimpalli Pattabhiramiah Garu, the father of our Nadimpalli Seetharamiah though not much educated in English was an accomplished person with advanced social and political views. He was an able contractor in the Revenue and Taluk Board Department. A man of sound health even at a pretty old age with regular habits was ever taking interest in Music and Literature. He was well versed in Ayurvedic medicine, Astrology and Sanskrit Literature.

Mr. Nadimpalli Seetharamiah was born in the year 1899 at Guntur. He was early educated in the A.E.L.M. College at Guntur and he continued in the same college till he passed the F.A. examination. He was throughout a distinguished and a bright student and passed the F.A. examination in his teens. While at school he had won many prizes almost in every class. Afterwards he studied for law and passed the pleadership and the Criminal Higher Test examination in the year 1910. Ever since he joined the bar he has been enjoying a lucrative practice. He is a leading member of the bar and has the general repute of being very intelligent, active and business-like. He is by nature very frank and bold and possesses in abundance sound reason and high common sense.

While he was in the F.A. class he made an alliance with the famous Gakamudi family by marrying Annapurnamma, the daughter of Mr. Lingaraju, a prominent member of the family.

He is a public worker and his zeal and interest in the local and civic needs of the town is very great. He was an elected member of the local Municipal Council from the year 1920. Soon after he entered the council he was elected twice as the chairman of the same body. In the year 1924 he was elected to the Senate of the Madras University. Like his father he is very keenly interested in the development of the fine arts of music and drama and for a long time he has been the president of all the local dramatic associations. In this respect he has studied Sanskrit a great deal to explore the fields of dramatic lore in its very original tongue and is even now spending his leisure hours in the study of Sanskrit.

An interesting feature of his life is that though he came of a family renowned for its Ayurvedic learning and physicians he is a strict disciple of the Nature Cure System and has ample faith in it. He is generally very kind and sympathetic. He educated his brother, Mr. Dasarathiramiah and helped him during his study for the Bar in England for five years from 1913 to 1917.

Mr. Dasarathiramiah, Bar-at-law, is the brother of Mr. Seetharamiah. He studied in England for the Bar and returned to India in 1917. Soon after his return he was for some time a traffic officer in the N. G. S. Railway and now he has set up practice at Guntur and is getting on well.

He is by nature bold and adventurous and has ample taste for music and melody.

Mr. Veluri Venkatasivavadhanulu Garu, Ramachandrapura Agraharam, Guntur is the son of Sivaramiah Garu of Guntur and the grandson of the late Veluri Venkatasivavadhanulu Garu. Late Veluri Venkatasivavadhanulu Garu belonged to a very ancient family which was well known for its traditional religious learning and culture. They mastered to a very high perfection the eighty-two pannas of the Vedas. Sivavadhanulu Garu after the completion of his studies enjoyed the rare privilege of being the Asthana Pandit in almost all the Zamindaris of the Guntur District and in appreciation of his vast learning the Zamindars bestowed on him landed property. He led an austere and religious life performing Visvadevum and other such allied Karmas, laid down in the Sastras as the duties of Brahmans. He dug out a big tank which covered an area of six acres in the town of Guntur. His tranquility was averted in his old days by the untimely and unforseen death of all his sons and was forced to adopt a son in the person of late Sivaramiah, the father of our Veluri Venkatasivavadhanulu.

Late Sivaramiah Garu maintained the family traditions and prestige and passed away in the year 1901.

Mr. Venkatasivavadhanulu was born in the year 1885 at Guntur. He had his early education in the A. E. L. M. School at Guntur. He entered life in his eighteenth year importing timber from Bhadrachallam forests under the name and style of Messrs. Sarma and Co., till the year 1911. He had wholesale supply depots at Rajahmundry and Guntur.

Being endowed with a traditional religious bent of mind, he studied Vedanta Sastra and Githa Bhashya. Again in 1916 he took to business as a general merchant and commission agent importing local products which business is still being conducted.

He is a benevolent gentleman with a charitable turn of mind. He constructed a choultry for lodging the poor at Suddapalle six miles off Guntur on the way to Tenali.

With the help of the local gentry he revived and started a Vedic School in the Siva Temple in the Agraharam and was the Secretary of the Institution and is now its Treasurer. He evinces great zeal in reviving and restoring the old temples and in promoting orthodox life.

He is recognized by the Madras Government as the Senior proprietor of the Ramachandrapura Agraharam and all the village officers are under his subordination.

Mr. Bramhamdam Venkata Lakshminarayana Row Garu of Bapatla is the son of late Mr. Bapayya Pantulu, and the grandson of the late Mr. Bramhamdam Veerayya Garu of Idumudi in the Ongole Taluk of the Guntur District and comes of an ancient Aruvela Niyogi family. Late Mr. Bramhamdam Venkayya Garu of Idumudi was a prominent agriculturist and was a shipping merchant. He was a very charitable man and in his native place had dug several wells and tanks for public use. In his old age he went over to Bapatla to lead a retired life, and expired there after sometime.

Late Mr. Bapayya Pantulu, the son of Mr. Bramhamdam Venkayya Garu, and the father of Mr. Venkatalakshminarayana Row, was born at his father's place, Idumudi, on Thursday the 27th April 1874. The career of Mr. Bramhamdam Venkayya is a remarkable one with very humble beginnings. When he was a child his father had lost all the property in shipping concerns and they were reduced to poverty, and further it was the period when the Dhatu famine was severely raging. His mother died when he was only six years old, and his father remarried. So, young Bapayya was left destitute of any human help in this wide, wide world, to seek what God had in store for him. But the great God had endowed the boy with courage and fortitude to bend before the storm of miseries like a prudent man, and well did he face the wafting winds of fortune. Neglected by his father, he went to his aunt for protection, who pitied him and took upon herself the care and education of the boy. He had to undergo many toils and hardships for his education and he was hardly able to meet his school fees.

The all omnipotent God was now and then favouring the boy and he exacted the pity and sympathy of the school master and he was admitted as a free scholar. Later his cousin opened a school where Mr. Bapayya was a teacher for sometime, besides his own study. Afterwards in 1874 he became a vakil's clerk on a small pittance of a few rupees, which he gave to his aunt for her timely help. All along he was reading Telugu and Telugu literature, which he passed with credit. Then through the influence and training of the local pleaders, he studied for the pleadership examination which he soon passed and took up the sannad in the year 1882, and was allowed to practise in his own mother tongue, Telugu. He soon built up good practice and was making an unrivalled earning. He amassed much wealth and purchased lot of lands. He wanted to buy a Shrotriam village in the Nellore District, but could not for want of time; but it was done by his son, Mr. Lakshminarayana Row, who is now a Shrotriamdar. He established a good name in his district undisputed, unrivalled and unequalled.

Afterwards in the year 1884 his father, step-mother and half-brother all went over to Bapatla to live with him, and he welcomed all of them with rejoicings. He took upon himself the education of his half-brother and performed his Upanayanam and marriage.

Besides he was an orthodox and religious Brahmin with a charitable disposition. He had dug a well and built a choultry at Bapatla for public use. He wanted to build a shrine for Lord Siva and Ganapathy, for which he brought images too, but had not enough time to see it completed. In the local temple he had built the 'Vahanasala' 'Mukhamantapam' and constructed a car (Ratham) for it.

He was well known in the Andhra Desa as a public man and after a remarkable career he died on the 11th of November in 1907.

Mr. Venkata Lakshminarayana Row, the son of the well known Bramhamdam Bapayya, was born at Bapatla on the 1st of November in the year 1899. He was early given a sound education in Telugu and later in English in the year 1917. When he was a major, he took up the management of his estates. He is very orthodox and religious and reads the Indian Epics a great deal. He is charitable like his father. He completed the building of a shrine to Lord Siva and Ganapathy started by his good father. He has endowed large amount of property and money for a building to the Sanskrit Library, which is affiliated with the local Sankara Sidyalayam and Dattatriya Mandiram. He is continuing all the charities maintained by his father and is the Dharmakartha of the local Siva temple.

His father in his days wanted to buy a Shrotriam village in the District of Nellore, but could not for want of time. Mr. Venkata Lakshminarayana Row Garu purchased it and is now the Shrotriamdar of the village, and has thus fulfilled the desire of his father.

Mr. Mallavarapu Subba Row, B.A., Pleader, Ongole, is the son of late Ramalingayya Garu. Late Ramalingayya comes of a Niyogi family and was a pious gentleman.

Mr. Mallavarapu Subba Row Garu was born in the year 1876 at Suryapalem village, in the Atmakur Taluk, in the District of Nellore. He had his early education in the local High School at Ongole and passed out his Matriculation examination from there in the year 1891. He went over to Madras for higher education and joined the Madras Christian College from whence he took his degree in the year 1895. He then joined the Law College for the pleadership examination and passed it out in the year 1901.

After his educational course was over he went over to Ongole and set up practice there in the year 1902, and since then he has been making steady progress in his professional pursuit.

C. Satyanarayana Chowdury (page 65)

Late Bappayya Pantulu

B. Lakshminarayana Row (page 64)

Sreeramulu Naidu (page 65)

V. Venkatasivavadhanulu (page 63)

He is a public worker and has held honorary offices in every body of the local self government institutions. He was a member of the Municipal Council, Taluk Board, and District Board, all of which he resigned in the year 1921. He is fast developing religious tastes and now devotes all his leisure hours to the study of ancient epics.

Mr. Varadha Sreeramulu Naidu, Municipal Chairman and President, Taluq Board, Ongole, is the son of late Mr. Varadha Veerasawmi Naidu, a prominent citizen of Ongole in the district of Guntur. Late Mr. Varadha Veerasawmi Naidu Garu was a self made man and amassed a large fortune in the shape of landed estates and house property. He comes of an ancient family whose ancestral seat was at Ongole. He was a contractor and was for some time a member of the local Municipal Council. He died at an old age leaving behind him five sons, of whom Mr. Sriramulu Naidu is the fourth. All the sons are well educated and are enjoying prominent positions in life.

Mr. Sriramulu Naidu was born at Ongole and had his early education in the local High School at Ongole. He passed his F.A. examination in 1909. After the completion of his education he was for a short time a teacher in the local A. E. L. M. High School, but all along he had a burning passion for business and finally was forced to resign the post in preference to business. He has a great business acumen and is quite successful in every turn of his business. He is now a Railway contractor and also does banking business and he is running both of them in an excellently remarkable manner and is flourishing well.

He is a man of multifarious activities and is deeply interested in public matters. He has been on the Municipal Council as a member for the past ten years and has been the chairman of the Council for the last four terms and at every election was returned unanimously unopposed, which bears ample testimony to the love and esteem which he commands from the townsmen. He was a member of the Taluq Board for the last eight years and is now its president. When on the Municipal Council as its president he improved its finances a great deal and made up the enormous deficits under which the Municipality was groaning. He improved the civic needs of the town such as sanitation and medical relief.

His services to the cause of Education are highly commendable as he has rendered immense service in that line. The idea of a new High School for the town of Ongole first had its birth in him. After a great deal of strenuous labour and exertion he brought into existence the present Municipal High School run under the management of the Municipality. The story of the origin of the school is rather one of sheer struggle. The town of Ongole is not rich enough to bear the costs of running a school, but Mr. Sreeramulu Naidu was ever keenly interested in it and in fact his one idea was to see the birth of a Native High School in Ongole. When affairs were under struggling circumstances to the great and good fortune of Ongole Mr. Sreeramulu Naidu was elected as the president of the Taluq Board from which position he was able to get financial help from the Taluq Board and the District Board and also from the public at large and the final result was the establishment of the School—his dream of several years. The founding of the school saved the suffering of many students who were thwarted in their education for want of admission in the neighbouring sister Institution.

He has endowed the Municipal High School, which institution owes to him a great deal, with three scholarships. In appreciation of his great help to the cause of education with mind and money the public of Ongole through the members of the local Municipal Council have in grateful memory and gratitude to him named a Primary School situated in the new extension of the town after him as Sreeramulu Naidu Primary School. The Government too soon realised his interests in the cause of education and nominated him to be a member of the District Educational Council to benefit that body by his suggestions.

He is a very good sportsman both in in-door and out-door games and has contributed a decent donation to the local club. He is a pleasant gentleman of very decent and courteous manners ever disposed to charity and the friend of every one rich and poor alike and has many years of prosperity before him.

Mr. C. Satyanarayana Chowdhury Garu, B.A., B.L., High Court Vakil, Guntur, is the son of M.R.Ry. Hanumiah Garu, a landlord at Peddamaddali in the Kistna District. He was born on the 28th November in the year 1898 at Peddamaddali.

He had his early education at Peddamaddali and went over to Madras for higher education and joined the Madras Christian College. He matriculated in the year 1915 and finally took his B.A. degree in the year 1919 from the Madras Christian College. As a student he was very brilliant in the class and won prizes successively in the fourth, fifth and sixth forms. He was also playing a prominent part in the social activities of the College. He was a member, secretary and the librarian of the Caithness Hall. In the year 1918 he was the general secretary of the College hostels, and the Inter-hostel Committee. He took an active and prominent part in the celebration of Dr. Miller's 80th birthday.

As a lawyer he has been building up good practice ever since he set up at Guntur. He handled all

the cases that arose from the Guntur District Board, in conjunction with the introduction of the Local Boards' Act of 1921 and he was the first in the whole Presidency to conduct such cases. He was appointed by the Government in the year 1923 as a member of the committee organised to revise the electoral rolls of the Legislative Assembly and the Guntur Taluk Board.

As a public worker he has been taking interest in the education of the youth. He was the superintendent of the Kamma Hostel till the year 1924, and and he is now the general secretary of the Kamma Vidhalaya Sahaya Sangam, Guntur. For his age he has done much for amelioration of his community and he has many more years before him for useful work.

Mr. Chintalacheruvu Koteswara Row Garu, B.A., Pleader, Narasaraopet, is the son of the late Venkatanarasayya Garu, who was a landlord of Nagireddipalle, a hamlet of Chintalacheruvu of Vinukonda Taluk in the District of Guntur. He was born in the year 1886 at Nagireddipalle. He had his early education in Vinukonda, Nuzvid and Masulipatam. He passed his Matriculation in the year 1902 and took his B.A. degree from the Nabob's College, Masulipatam. He was a bright student and won many prizes during his College course. Then he studied for law and passed the 2nd grade pleadership in the year 1909 and straight away set up practice at Narasaraopet. While practising he studied for the first grade pleadership and passed it out in 1917.

Much of his time is spent in public work and he is connected with all the local movements and the civic bodies. He is a member of the Union Board. He is on the Municipal Council, ever since the Narasaraopet Municipality has been inaugurated and he was its vice-president in the year 1923. He has been a member of the Taluk Board since 1919, its vice-president in 1921 and president since the year 1924. He is also a member of the District Board from 1921. He was the secretary of the Co-operative Bank when it was started and was obliged to give it up for want of time. He has worked remarkably for the cause of education, and the local High School owes its present status and alleviation solely to him. He is a member of the several local Educational Committees, in the Guntur District. He is interested in the study and the development of Telugu literature.

He has been made a Government pleader in 1917 and is continuing the post since then.

He leads an orthodox life, daily performing the Karmas and religious duties accorded by the Shastras to a Brahmin, in spite of all his pressing public activities that take away much of his time.

Late Mr. Akella Suryanarayana Row Pantulu Garu, B.A., District Court Pleader, Vizagapatam, was born on the 4th of August in the year 1861 in the village of Ghantavnimpalem near Anakapalli. His father, Mr. Papayya Sastri was the first to remove himself to Vizagapatam in the year 1861. He practised there as a lawyer and by the time he retired he accrued fortune worth thirty or forty thousand rupees and a house at Vizagapatam.

Late Mr. Suryanarayana Row was early educated in the local London Mission High School and afterwards in the Government Arts College at Rajahmundry, from where he passed his F.A. examination in the year 1878. Later he joined the Madras Christian College and graduated from there in the year 1881. Meanwhile, his father died, and his mother had already predeceased his father, yet by the generosity of his uncle he studied for Law and passed his pleadership examination and by this time he had also come by some of his ancestral property, but he had to begin his practice by borrowing Rs. 50 on the security of a family jewel for sundry preliminary expenses. Little did one know at that time that a person starting with a negative balance of Rs. 50 would amass a fortune to be counted in lakhs, which has been the privilege of very few in this Presidency to acquire and verily might one say the ways of Providence are mysterious.

After his legal studies were over, he joined the Vizagapatam Bar in 1883, and within three years he built an extensive practice to the envy of his seniors. His work at the bar was always very sincere and he never missed a point unnoticed and strove his best for his clients. Late Mr. Akella Suryanarayana Row's career at the Bar was fully beset with numerous illustrious incidents that could not be adequately described in this short biography of his. He had conducted several criminal and civil cases. The Belgaum, the Kurupum, the Andhra the Sangamvalsa partition suits were all conducted by him with remarkable success. There are cases which were given up for lost from the beginning and which were about to be dismissed even by the Presidency Judge, but were won with admirable success by Mr. Suryanarayana Row by his undaunted courage, elaborate cross-examinations and skilful arguments. He had early in his life, the invaluable advice and instruction of the late Dr. Sir S. Subramania Iyer, which carried him through almost all the civil cases remarkably well. The most sensational criminal case conducted by Mr. Suryanarayana Row is the one commonly called the Swami case, in which one Paramahamsa Balasubramanya Brahmaswami, was charged with criminal breach of trust to the extent of Rs. 35,000 as agent of the Maharani of Vizianagaram, and the complainants were high estate officials of Vizianagaram and several civil officers, including the late Mr. H. E. W. Gillman, D. E. S., who was then the estate Collector. The case aroused much sensation,

and there were several prominent witnesses for the prosecution. Much was the joy when amidst odd oppositions Mr. Suryanarayana Row conducted the case with calm and collected composure and finally won it.

Meanwhile late Mr. Suryanarayana Row had acted as District Munsiff twice and he declined the offer a third time. However, at the request of the Government he accepted the appointment of the Public Prosecutor, but as worry and explanations to the Government for all trivial matters were too much for his dignity and temperament, he soon resigned the appointment and once again had his full time at his disposal. He was never the child of patronage and was never dependent on Government favour for his success in life. He had by this time built up large practice and was earning from 3,000 to 4,000 Rupees per month, while in big Zamindari suits he earned immense sums such as Rs. 12,000 for a single case. In the Belgaum partition suit he was paid Rs. 12,000.

As a lawyer, in him was combined all the necessary talents that would make him a success such as acute legal acumen, surpassing ability in the analysis and presentation of a case, powers of able advocacy and cross examination. In all his life he never lost his temper once. He bore in a dignified way the cut and cross of the bench and bar and endeavoured his best for his clients, among whom he made no distinction between the rich and the poor. Prince and peasant were all one to him. Pecuniary remunerations never swayed his partiality. There are very few zamindars and ryots that were not his clients at one time or other. He had the good fortune of appearing along with such eminent legal luminaries as the late Sir V. Bashyam Iyengar, Sir S. Subramania Iyer, Mr. V. Krishnaswami Iyer, Mr. Sundaram Iyer in several important and sensational zemindari cases, and in all cases he created a very favourable impression on his seniors and was always referred to in high and flattering terms.

The Social and Political activities of late Mr. Suryanarayana Row were by no means insignificant. As Municipal councillor for nearly a decade and a member of the District Board for nearly two decades, as the chairman of the Municipality of Vizagapatam for a term and as representative in the local Legislative Council for three and a half years he rendered very valuable and patriotic services to his countrymen in such measure as he was enabled to do. During his term of office as Municipal chairman and president of the District Board far reaching reforms were effected which are remembered even to this day.

He arranged for a grand reception being offered to the Public Services Commission under the Presidency of Lord Islington who congratulated him immensely for the same. Lord Pentland himself, the then Governor of Madras, was the recipient of an address and a magnificent evening party at his hands in the year 1917 and the grand fireworks arranged as part of the reception was much appreciated by the public at the time. The generous reception accorded to Sir P. S. Sivaswami Iyer at the time he was a member of the Governor's Executive Council and the most luxurious and sumptuous dinner ever given by a citizen of Vizagapatam on that occasion are too fresh in the memory of his friends to need any elaborate description.

Late Mr. Suryanarayana Row was offered the presidentship of several political conferences and other deliberative bodies and in all cases he more than satisfied the expectations of his friends and admirers by the masterly and the most practical and business-like view he always took of the burning topics of the day and he was always commended for the genuine and patriotic interests he evinced in the advancement of his people and his country.

Late Mr. Suryanarayana Rao was never proud of his wealth. He was the real friend of the poor and was ever a source of relief to the needy and the suffering. The 'two wings' of the Turner's choultry known as the Akella Rest Houses were endowed in memory of his beloved parents. The Lady Pentland Club which promises to be completed with a further instalment of his donation, the Brodie Fountain in the District Court, and the fountain and the guest house constructed within the Lodge compound presented to the Masonic Lodge, the Mackay Shelves (a library of English law books presented to the Lister Bar Association) and the Ayurvedic Dispensary opened by the ex-Chief-Minister, the Honourable the Raja of Panagal, are by no means a mean record of philanthropic work to the credit of Mr. Suryanarayana Row.

Late Mr. Suryanarayana Rao was enjoying a happy retired life up to the date of his death. The Vizagapatam Bar presented him with an address, on the eve of his retirement, a rare and a unique honour. We sincerely trust that the name of Mr. Suryanarayana Row will live to posterity and survive as an ideal example to inspire many an Indian youth.

Rao Saheb S. Sitapati Row, B.A.. B.L., Vakil, Vizagapatam, was born in the year 1874 at Parvatipur. He had a successful educational career throughout his early days and was admitted to the B.A. degree in the year 1894 and to the B.L. degree in the year 1899, and was finally called to the bar in July 1899. Since then he has been thriving well in the profession and now commands lucrative practice in the locality.

He took very great interest in the local bodies and improved the system of working the local self-government in the locality. He acted for sometime as the vice-president and later as the president of the Parvatipur Taluk Board. His invaluable services

to the improvement of the local bodies were justly recognised by the Government and in the year 1916 the title of Rao Saheb was conferred on him. Afterwards he acted for sometime as the Dewan of Jeyapore Samasthanam in the year 1918, and after relinquishing his services to the state he once again rejoined the legal profession. He is now the Agency public prosecutor and a member of the Municipal Council.

He is also a freemason of the lodge Hamilton, Vizagapatam, and a staunch theosophist.

Mr. Mosalikanty Ramakrishna Row Pantulu Garu, Proprietor of Allipur Estate, Sree Jagannadha Vilas, Vizagapatam, is the son of late M.R.Ry. M. Venkatajagannadha Row Pantulu Garu and comes of one of the oldest families in the District. Late M. Venkatajagannadha Row Pantulu Garu was for a long time the proprietor of the Allipur Estate in the district of Vizagapatam and he was well known in the locality. He was for a long time a honorary magistrate, and was also a member of all the civic bodies at Vizagapatam such as the Municipal Council the Taluk and the District Boards.

Mr. Mosalikanty Ramakrishna Row was born in the year 1885 at Vizagapatam and was only twelve years of age when his father died. Mr. Ramakrishna Row had his early education in the local London Mission High School, now known as the C.B.M. High School. After his educational career was over he succeeded his father as the proprietor of the Allipur estate at his twenty-sixth year.

Mr. Ramakrishna Row like his father takes keen interest in all the civic needs of the city. He was a member of the local Taluk and the District Boards, and is now a member of the local Municipal Council for the past fifteen years. He is one of the members of the special committee for the water works. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge, Waltair, and also of the Hamilton Memorial Masonic Temple, Vizagapatam.

He is very much interested in Education and educational problems. He has made a gift of a good number of valuable books to the library of Sir G. N. Gajpathi Rao's Hindu Reading Room.

He is a good player of tennis and billiards.

Sri Pusapati Cumara Venkatapathi Raju, B. A., M. L. C., Vizagapatam, comes of the Vizianagaram Pusapati family, and belongs to the Kshatriya community. He was born in the year 1884, and was educated in the Madras Christian College, wherefrom he took his B.A. degree.

Mr. P. C. Venkatapathi Raju is a public man of great repute. He is the president of the District Educational Committee, Vizagapatam, since the year 1921. He is also the president of the Co-operative Credit Society, and the president of the District Congress Committee, Vizagapatam. He is a member of the Senate of the Madras University, and is a prominent elected member of the Madras Legislative Council. As a legislator he is well known in the locality and commands the public esteem to a large measure.

Rao Saheb Sanyasiraju Pantulu Garu, B.A., Dewan to H. H. Sri Seethabai Rani Saheba of Wadhwan, is the son of Mallavarapu Butchi Venkayya Pantulu Garu of Vizagapatam and was born in the year 1881. Mr. Sanyasiraju Pantulu comes of one of the oldest families of the District. The family first migrated from the Krishna District and has been living at Vizagapatam for about a hundred years.

Late Mallavarapu Butchi Venkayya Pantulu was born in the year 1847 and was given only private education at home and many of his attainments were all self-taught. He first entered the Revenue Department as a clerk and after having served in various capacities he finally rose to the position of a deputy collector.

He was very fond of religion and philosophy and led a very simple life. He was quite unostentatious, rigid in principles, and was a strict disciplinarian and led throughout a pure life. He was well known for his honesty and his name was quite proverbial in the locality. He was revered and respected by one and all with esteem and love.

Rao Saheb Sanyasiraju Pantulu Garu was born in 1881 and was educated in the London Mission High School at Vizagapatam. He passed his Matriculation examination in 1896 and graduated from the Madras Christian College in 1900. Like his father he also joined the Vizagapatam collectorate as a clerk in 1901. After eleven years service, in the year 1912, he was made a deputy tahsildar and finally in 1917 was sent to Chatrapur in Ganjam District as a deputy collector. In 1923 he was made the personal assistant to the Agency Commissioner, Waltair. After sometime, the agency office was established and Mr. Sanyasiraju Pantulu had to revert to the regular line as deputy collector and in that capacity he served at Vizagapatam till the year 1924. It was in December 1924 his services were lent to Her Highness the Rani Saheba of Wadhwan. Since then he is in the state improving it in every way to the best of his abilities, and the progressive institutions of the state owe a great deal to him.

In recognition of his public services, in the year 1922, he was given the title of 'Rao Saheb.'

Dewan Bahadur Buddhavarapu Narayanamurthi Pantulu Garu, Retired Deputy Collector and Dewan, Vizagapatam, comes of an orthodox Brahmin family and was born in the village of Chintalur in the Ramachandrapur Taluk of the Godavari District on the 8th of January in the year 1850. It was in the year 1830 that his father Jagannadham Garu, Mirasdar of Ramavaram in the Godavari District removed to Vizagapatam and permanently settled there. Late Jagannadham Pantulu had fourteen children, but he lost almost all of them, except a few sons and a daughter.

Dewan Bahadur Narayanamurthy Pantulu Garu was early educated in Telugu till he was eleven years of age and was afterwards sent to the Anglo-Vernacular High School, which is the present A.V. N. College at Vizagapatam. His scholastic career was a brilliant one, as he was the first boy from the first to the sixth forms and won prizes in each of the classes. He studied English under an Englishman, the late Mr. P. M. Homesl, the then Head Master of the institution and picked up pure Anglo-Saxon style of speech and writing and had a capacity for expression, which was both pregnant and simple. As a student he could repeat the whole of the Morris' Indian History from the beginning to the end. He matriculated in the year 1870 and when he left the school he was awarded numerous testimonials for his high ability, capacity and character.

He first entered the noble profession of a teacher and served his own *Alma Mater* till the year 1876. Even while a teacher his hobby for study pursued him and he learnt Urdu. His excellent capacity attracted the notice of the president of the school committee, the late Mr. Goodrich, who was then the District Collector of Vizagapatam. He offered him the post of a Sea Customs head clerk, which was thankfully accepted by Mr. Narayanamurthy Pantulu Garu. In this capacity his work was so excellent and pleasant that it won the admiration of each one of his superior officers. Mr. Goodrich himself said in a certificate offered to Mr. Narayanamurthi Pantulu that his education has been superior and that he had profited by it. Mr. Narayanamurthi completed all the tests required of a deputy collector and a sub-divisional magistrate in a few years and he was promoted to the grade of a deputy tahsildar in 1880. As a deputy tahsildar he won the admiration and commanded the respect of not only his superior officers but also the public and proved himself to be a popular officer. As a municipal councillor and chairman he has caused several roads to be repaired and several new ones to be opened. Several free Reading Rooms were opened to promote the education of the public. One great work that stands to his credit even to this day is the opening of a Vedic and Sanskrit School at Salur in 1884, which institution was subsequently recognised by the Government. Since then the institution has been sending out many pandits and vidwans, who are doing a signal service to the cause of Oriental learning in the neighbouring Districts of Vizagapatam. The Maharajah of Bobbili patronised the institution by a liberal donation of a large sum of money. Meanwhile Mr. Narayanamurthi Pantulu's reputation spread throughout the neighbourhood so much that his services were wanted everywhere. The Maharajah of Vizianagaram, Sri Anandagajapathi Raj applied for the loan of Mr. Pantulu vari's services, which was refused, as the Government could not lose him. Mr. Narayanamurthi Pantulu was Deputy Tahsildar at Vizianagaram in 1887 when the famous Diamond Jubilee celebrations of our Queen Empress Victoria came off. On his persuasion the Maharajah of Vizianagaram erected a Park in the name of Queen Victoria at Vizianagaram. Afterwards in the year 1891 he was posted to Chatrapur as general charge deputy collector and he continued to serve in the Ganjam District till the year 1901. In recognition of his onerous work in the famine of 1897 he was awarded the title of Rao Bahadur in the year 1898. During his stay at Gumsur was completed the Rushikulya Project works and he exerted much to popularise in the division the second crop cultivation. In the year 1901 he was transferred to Vizagapatam, his own native place as headquarters deputy collector, where in recognition of his excellent public work, he was unanimously elected as the chairman of the Municipality. His regime as chairman was marked with several improvements. New roads were opened and drainage was improved. New markets were opened. The town was extended and sewage farms were opened to improve the general health of the city. The sewage farms are named as N. and V. farms after Mr. Narayanamurthy Pantulu and Major Vickers the then D.M. and S.O. The waterworks were completed and the whole town enjoyed good sanitary facilities and the whole town was quite healthy and happy. H. E. Lord Ampthill, the then Governor of Madras, visited Vizagapatam, and he was so highly pleased with Mr. Narayanamurthy Pantulu and his character and career, that he presented him with his family motto "Jo, boga, sohaga" imprinted in a locket and a facsimile as a token of his personal appreciation. Just before his retirement from the Government service in April 1905 he was offered the Dewanship of the Bobbili estate, which his old age did not permit him to accept. However he accepted the Dewanship under the Rani Saheb of Wadhwan the same year. In the year 1906 he was made a Dewan Bahadur, when congratulatory meetings were held in Vizagapatam with great eclat and several collectors offered him testimonials of high appreciation. The State of Wadhwan prospered well in his term of office as Dewan. Then came the Coronation Durbar of Their Majesties King George and Queen Mary at Delhi. To this Durbar, at the special request

of the Rani Saheba Mr. Narayanamurthy Pantulu Garu and his noble wife went and they had the unique honour of being invited to the garden party given to their Majesties. After several years of useful service he retired from the State service on a monthly pension of Rs. 120 besides his Government pension.

He was the vice-president of the Agricultural Commission appointed in the year 1917 and was also the vice-president of the District Board. Even after retirement his activities did not cease and time and again he had been offered several testimonials of high regard and appreciation both by the Government and high officials. He represented the Madras Presidency in the Malarial Conference held at Simla in the year 1909.

Mr. Narayanamurthi Pantulu has two sons, the elder son Mr. Jagannadha Row, is the Palace Superintendent at Wadhwan. The second son is Mr. Mallikarjuna Row. His grandson, through his son Mr. Jagannadha Row, is a lawyer and is practising as a High Court Vakil. His brother, Mr. Ramamurthi Pantulu, is a retired Tahsildar and is living with him. Unfortunately in the year 1918 his wife passed away.

Mr. Narayanamurthi Pantulu rebuilt a temple in his native place which was his mother's last only wish. He is now leading a retired and devout life. Much of his time is spent in meditation and prayers to the Almighty God.

Mr. Vaḍuganti Somasundra Row, Vakil and Chairman, Vizagapatam, is the son of late Lakshimikantam Pantulu Garu, who was a Khiladar of the Vizianagaram Samsthanam, and comes of one of the oldest families in the Samsthanam. Late Lakshmikantam Pantulu was well known for his charities and has fulfilled the Hindu rules of charity named " Saptasanatanas." He had many gardens planted and tanks dug up in his days. He was a very pious and religious gentleman and was the most loyal subject of His Highness the Maharajah, and he commanded the greatest respect and honour.

Mr. Somasundara Row Garu had his early education under the patronage of the Samsthanam. He completed his general course early, and in the year 1901 passed the pleadership examination and joined the Vizianagaram bar in the same year. As a lawyer he has been building up very good practice since then, and now he commands large practice and is the standing vakil of the Vizianagaram Samsthanam. He is now practically the leader of the bar and through his tenacity of purpose and sincerity towards his clients he commands very high respect both from the bench and the clientele.

He is no less a public man and a loyal citizen. He is an elected member of the Municipal Council, ever since he entered life in 1901 to this day and there can be no greater testimony to his popularity, honour and esteem. He was also the chairman of the Municipal Council for three times. As an administrator he has been paying all his attention to the upkeep of the municipality and saved it from heavy debts, without increment in taxes. He was a nominated and later an elected member of the Taluk Board and was finally its vice-president, and its president also. As president of the Taluk Board he raised the Palakonda Middle School to the status of a High School, promising to pay 10,000 rupees from his own pocket in case no public contributions were secured. He was a member of the District Board for a period of twelve years. Later he became a member of the District Educational Council and as he was keenly interested in educational problems to save time he gave up his seat in the Taluk Board. He is also very much interested in the Co-operative Societies and, in fact, was the first man that organised the Vizianagaram Urban Bank and has been its Secretary since its inception in the year 1914. He is one of the Directors of the Vizagapatam District Co-operative Banking Union and was also its president for one term. He is also one of the members of the Madras Central Urban Bank ever since it was made the chief bank in the Presidency.

He is also a prominent politician in the locality and is the first additional secretary of the Vizagapatam District Conference.

Mr. Vadrevu Venkata Narasimha Row Pantulu Garu, Vakil, Rajamundry, is the son of late Mr. V. Sreeramulu Pantulu Garu of Rajamundry. Late Sreeramulu Pantulu Garu was a popular District Munsiff and in that capacity had served at various places. Sreeramulu Pantulu comes of a distinguished aristocratic family, the members of which, a few generations ago, were holding responsible posts in the Government service. Mr. Sreeramulu Pantulu had an elder brother Mr. Hanumayya Pantulu. Mr. Hanumayya Pantulu was holding a prominent position and his name is still green in the memory of the Rajamundry public.

Vadrevu Venkatanarasimha Row Pantulu was born at Rajamundry and was early educated in the Ellore High School. He took his B.A. degree from the Rajamundry College in the year 1916, and then studied for law at Madras and passed out his B.L. examination in the year 1919. He was a distinguished scholar and had won many prizes in the High School classes and got the " Young scholarship " for having passed his intermediate examination in first class in the year 1914.

After his educational career at Madras was over he went over to Rajamundry and set up practice there

64

V. Venkata Narasimha Row Pantulu (page 70)

K. Sundaram Chetty Garu (page 71)

V. Somasundara Row (page 70)

K. Madhava Rao Garu (page 72)

K. Gundu Rao (Page 72)

in the year 1920. Within a short period of five years he has built up good practice and thoroughly enjoys his profession.

He is a very civil and courteous person with pleasant manners about him. He is very charitable and his charities are more guided by the dictates of our ancient and time-honoured Hindu Sastras. He is sportive and is an excellent horseman. He is a good scholar and has a keen taste in the study of Sanskrit, Telugu, and English Literature. He takes considerable interest in expounding Indian Philosophy.

Mr. K. Sundaram Chetty Garu, Acting District and Sessions Judge, Rajamundry, is the son of Krishnama Chettiar Avergal of Sandamangalam village in the Taluk of Namakal in the Salem District. Mr. Krishnama Chettiar comes of a Vysia family and is a landed aristocrat, and the family as a whole is well known in that taluk and is held in high esteem.

Mr. K. Sundaram Chettiar was born in the month of November in the year 1875 at Sandamangalam, Namakal, in the District of Salem. He was early educated at Salem, Trichinopoly and Madras. He was a brilliant and distinguished student and passed all his examinations with distinction. He passed out his Matriculation examination in his fourteenth year and his B.L. examination in his twenty-first year. He passed his Matriculation and F.A. examinations in first class. He passed his F.L. examination first in the Presidency and got the Muirhead scholarship for the B.L. course. After his remarkable and brilliant educational career was over, he joined the Salem bar to practise in the year 1897 at his twenty-second year. Five years afterwards, that is, in the year 1902 he was appointed as the district munsiff and posted to Bezwada. He was appointed as the sub-judge in the year 1916 and in that capacity he served in the Districts of Chittoor, Nellore and Guntur. His work was highly appreciated and he was soon raised to the post of a District and Sessions Judge in the year 1924 and was posted to Bellary. In the same year he was transferred to the capital city as a Judge of the Court of Small Causes. After a brief period he was once again transferred to the moffussil as a District judge in which capacity he served at Ramnad in the year 1925 and is at present at Godaveri from the month of October 1925.

He is a staunch member of the Theosophical Society and spends most of his leisure hours to the study of Theosophy. He takes very great interest in all Theosophical activities. He is a pious gentleman with a religious bent of mind, and is very courteous to all, both rich and the poor alike. He has been very popular wherever he served in his official capacity.

Mr. F. R. Srinivasa Iyengar Avergal, First Member, Executive Council, Mysore Government, Bangalore City, is the son of Mr. Raghaviengar, a landlord in the Taluk of Mannargudi, in the Tanjore District and comes of a respectable Brahmin Vasihnava family. Mr. Srinvasa Iyengar was born on the 18th of July in the year 1871 at Mannargudi. He had his early education in a village school, and later went over to Kumbakonam, where he continued his studies in the Kumbakonam College. In the Kumbakonam College he was a student of the famous Mr. B. Hanumantha Row, under whose able tution and guidance Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar passed his B. A. examination first in the Presidency with Mathematics as his special subject. In recognition of his merits he was awarded two university gold medals in the year 1890. After his passing the B.A. examination he was awarded a government scholarship to prosecute his studies further to M.A., and while he was engaged in that pursuit he also competed for the Mysore Civil Service examination in 1892, the first of its kind ever introduced in the Province of Mysore. He successfully passed both the Civil Service examination where he stood second in rank and also the M.A. examination. Later after passing the examinations he joined the Mysore Civil Service in July 1892.

As aforesaid his official career began from the month of July 1892, when he entered the Mysore Civil Service as a probationary Assistant Commissioner. After a brief period he was confirmed in service and he passed through almost all the several stages of the officials cadre. He served as Assistant Commissioner in the Districts of Mysore, Tumkur, Kadur, Bangalore and Kolar. In the year 1907 he was appointed as the Deputy Commissioner in which capacity also he served in the several Districts of the State. After his services in almost every district of the State he was taken into the Secretariat in May 1912 as Secretary to Government which he continued to be till February 1914. From 1914 afterwards he served as the head of several departments. He became the Inspector-General of Police in April 1917 and the Commissioner of Revenue in June 1918, the very next year. While he was still as a permanent Commissioner of Revenue he also acted as a member of the Executive Council for a brief period from July 1919 to February 1920. He was appointed as a permanent member of the Council in July 1923, and he is now the first and the senior member of the Council.

As an officer he has established an unbroken and brilliant record of service, and is spoken of very highly by all the superior officers, under whom he had the pleasure to serve. He carried to the last his bright and brilliant features, that marked him as a student. He is now the luminous ideal in the Mysore Service, whose example it is worth while to follow by the younger generation and the officials that succeed him.

Besides being an excellent officer, he is also a very popular officer and is the people's man. While as deputy commissioner at Tumkur he brought out under the orders of the Government of Mysore a huge work 'The Statistical Abstract of the Mysore State' which will stand to his name and credit for centuries to come. He is an illustrious and standing example of the whole Mysore Civil Service.

His special talents attracted the notice of the Government and he was deputed to be a member of the Constitutional Reforms Committee, presided by Dr. Brajendranath Seal, which Constitutional reforms were subsequently passed and sanctioned and it is noteworthy to read through the minutes of Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar.

He is a Freemason of the Bangalore Lodge, Bangalore. He is a good athelete from his school days and is an all round sportsman. Now his chief pursuit in games is Tennis. He is a very good horseman and even now he is an expert rider. He had obtained many prizes and cups in the races held by H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore.

Mr. Kurudi Gundu Rao Garu, B.A., B.L., High Court Vakil, Cuddapah, is the son of late Mr. K. Madhva Rao who was a Tahsildar and belongs to an ancient and respectable family. The ancestors of this family belonged to Mysore but a century and a half back they migrated to Madras Presidency.

Mr. Gundu Rao was born in 1878 at Madanapalli and was educated at the then Anglo-vernacular School, Triplicane. He underwent his Arts course in the Presidency College, Madras. He passed the B.A. degree examination and carried off the Bourdillan prize for proficiency in Telugu. He passed the B.L. examination in 1902 and became the apprentice-at-law under late Mr. T. V. Seshagiri Iyer. He was called to the bar in the year 1903 and he set his practice at Cuddapah. He is commanding a good practice on the Civil side and Criminal side as well.

He is associated with all the public movements of the District. He was for some time the Secretary of the District Congress Committee, a municipal councillor for ten years, and vice-chairman of the Taluq Board for three years. He was the chairman of the reception committee of the Cuddapah District Conference held in December, 1919 under the presidency of Mr. T. V. Venkatarama Iyer of Madras.

He has been taking great interest in co-operative matters in the District since its inception in Cuddapah. He was the President of the Town Co-operative Society for four years.

He is a sound Telugu scholar and has a library containing all the earliest and latest publications. He is the eldest of a family of four brothers and all are well educated and hold academical distinctions.

Mr. Koti Reddy Garu, B.A., LL.B., B.C.L., Bar-at-Law, Cuddapah, is the son of Mr. Sidda Reddi and was born in his native village Kotireddivaripally in the Chittoor District. Mr. Sidda Reddi is an agriculturist and is looking after his extensive estates.

Mr. Koti Reddi was born in the year 1887. He received his early education from the local Vernacular schools and English education from the Madanapalli High School from which institution he matriculated. He underwent his Collegiate Course in the Madras Christian College. Mr. Reddi distinguished himself both in the scholastic and collegiate careers and was the recipient of scholarship from the Christian College for a period of four years. He secured the scholarship by topping the list in a competitive examination held at Cuddapah. After passing the B. A. examination he sailed to England to study for the bar.

Mr. Koti Reddi Garu passed the LL.B., and B.C.L., examinations of the London and Oxford Universities in the years 1913 and 1914. He returned to India in July 1914 and set up practice at Madras. After a few years he went over to Cuddapah and has since been practising there. His career is bright and he was won in a short interval the confidence of the litigant public of the district.

He is a member of the District Secondary Education Board and was an M.L.C., for the last session. He is much interested in rural matters. He is the Secretary of the Reddi Jana Sangham which aims to uplift the Reddi community. He pays particular attention to educational problems.

Mr. Viruru Pichaiya, B.A., son of Govindappa was born at Palampalli, near Cuddapah, his maternal uncle's place, on 18th August, 1872. His native place is Vemulur, in Sidhout Taluk of Cuddapah District. He and his ancestors belong to this district.

After going through the village pial school he joined the Municipal Primary School at Cuddapah and passed the Matriculation examination in December 1901.

He passed the First examination in Arts from the Madras Christian College in 1904. After passing it he joined the Madras Presidency College for his B.A. and took his degree from there in 1897. He was the winner of the Bourdillan prize for proficiency in Telugu.

Mr. Pichaiya Garu joined the Cuddapah Collector's office as a clerk and remained there for a few months. Then he joined the Madras Law College as a student in the First Grade Pleadership class. He passed the First Grade Pleadership examination and he is now one of the leading members of the Bar at Cuddapah.

He took active part in the Cuddapah Municipal administration for about 12 years from 1903 to 1915. During this period he was an elected councillor, vice-chairman and chairman. Several public buildings including the 1st block of Scavengers' Colony were constructed during his chairmanship. He is much interested in all matters concerning the public of Guntur. He was a member of the Taluk Board from 1918 to 1925, vice-president for three years and elected president from 1922 to 1925.

He was a member of the District Educational Council and the 1st elected vice-president.

Mr. Pichaiya Garu is a keen sportsman and as such has been a member of the United Club, Cuddapah for about 30 years and has been the secretary for a long time. He takes great interest in field games and is a good Tennis player. He is a winner in the Singles tournament held in his Club and was the recipient of a gold medal in 1917 from J. W. Hughes, I.C.S., the then district judge and president of the Club.

He has a son, Mr. Subba Row, who is a graduate and now a student in the B. L. class.

Rao Bahadur G. Seturama Chetty Garu, Bellary, was born in the renowned family of Golconda. He started life as a book-keeper in the firm of Messrs. Hardy and Sabapathi, the well-known cotton merchants of India, America and Japan and continued in that service till 1888. Then he became an abkari contractor under Government and remained so till 1888, earning and putting by large sums of money. From 1893 onwards he was a trader in silks, clothes and laces jointly with his brother Subbiah Chettiar. By this time he had risen high in the estimation of the public and the Government. He was the secretary of a fund that was started with a capital of two lakhs of rupees and which came to a close owing to the outbreak of plague. He was nominated by the Government as a non-official visitor to the plague hospital by Hon. Mr. R. A. Graham, C.S.I., I.C.S., who was then the Collector of the district of Bellary in 1907. He was of immense service to the Government and the people in that capacity by distribution of Kumblies and other clothes to the poor and suffering classes. There was a strike in 1908 when he offered Rs. 10,000 as an act of munificence to the Government to open retail shops in many places to sell grains. Thus the strike had to come to an end. In 1913 he was appointed by the District Magistrate of Bellary as a non-official visitor of the Central Jail, Bellary, for a period of four years from 1914 to 1918. He was also nominated as a non-official visitor to the sub-jails of Bellary Taluk and a visitor to the Alipuram Central Jail, Bellary, which offices he still continues to hold. He was then nominated as a member of the Taluk and District Board in which capacity he moved several resolutions in their monthly meetings to improve the prosperity of the people of the district. He was a nominated municipal councillor of Bellary and for sometime chairman delegate. Thus his services were highly appreciated by the higher authorities.

He was a trained book-keeper possessing a fair knowledge in accounts and has audited many registered companies and funds. In 1914 he was appointed by the Government as a certified auditor and continued so till 1918. After 1918 he did not renew his certificate. He has given several endowments to several schools. The government recognising his public services conferred on him the title of Rao Saheb in 1921. He contributed Rs. 2,000 towards the establishment of a college at Bellary. Considering his past services to the jail population the government conferred on him the unique honour of Presidency Jail visitor. He contributed largely to the success of the British Empire Exhibition that was held in Bellary in August 1923. He is a director and the chairman of the board of the Bellary Electric Supply Company Ltd. In 1925 he contributed Rs. 2,500 for the local Hospital to put up sick beds. In 1926 the Government made him a Rao Bahadur. Thus Rao Bahadur Sethurama Chetti has proved himself to be a charitable and generous-hearted citizen rendering invaluable services to the Government and the people alike.

Mr. S. Guru Guhadoss Pillai, 'Domus Borealis,' Ettayapuram. When the Great Tirumala, Shah-je-Khan, of the Deccan made himself independent of the Empire of Vizayanagar, Chama Raja Udayar of Mysore, fearing Tirumala, had constantly been in cliques with certain disaffected Poliyagars subject to Madura Kingdom and expedited a strong army under his General Hara Sura Nandi to crush the growing power of Tirumala, and therefore, under the exigencies of time, King Tirumala could not keep himself idle and accordingly despatched an army chiefly composed of Vallama Balujas under the command of Ramappa Aiyan Dalavoy and Renganatha Nayak alias Ranganna Nayak Dalavoy of Dindigal, and in several battles that subsequently ensued both in the plains and in the countries lying at the foot of the Western Ghats, the Mysoreans were utterly routed out and to the Poliyagars siding with the Mysoreans adequate punishments were given appropriate to their crimes and cruelties. Immediately, after the victory was officially proclaimed the victorious army was ordered to proceed forthwith to Madura after reconnoitring the countries encompassed between the Palni Hills and the Cape Comorin. On their homeward march after the military survey of lands was being done, news reached them that the Poliyagar of Ettayapuram, putting himself at the head of a confederation of Poliyagars took up arms against the gates of the Metropolis of Tirumala, and hence, a body of regimental force was detached from the main force and quartered in Ettayapuram, under the orders of Renganatha Nayak, the officer commanding the

regiment. The regimental force which was stationed in Ettayapuram, remained there until it was once for all finally disbanded after the demise of Tirumala and among the corps that composed the regiment was an officer named Venkata Raman Nayak, next below in rank to Ranganna Nayak, the ancestor of Mr. S. Guru Guhadoss Pillai whose life sketch we are depicting. Since then his family has been permanently living there, making themselves ever deserving from the house of Ettayapuram for favour and kindness. Although there is nothing further to be added in the history of their exodus and after, it is believed that it will not be out of place here to mention that since then the family has undergone changes in their manners and customs retaining with them their original religion alone.

He was born in the year 1878 and being of a sickly constitution subject to constant attacks of influenza, he had to forego his higher studies and thereby win an academical distinction, though he was the cynosure of all the eyes of the students with whom he was studying. While a student he had a special aptitude for English and his English compositions were appreciated by such eminent educationists as Messrs. Logan, Flanagan, Nagoji Row; and Mr. E. Marsden, when he was once introduced to him in Madras by Mr. Srinivasa Aiyer of the now defunct Albert Victor Technical Institute, Trichinopoly, perusing his English essay remarked, "The essay is written in a tolerably good style." After quitting school life, he betook himself to the study on a variety of subjects, sending occasional contributions to the local journals on different original subjects both in the form of researches and reviews. An author of fame perusing his remarks on the history of the Forgotten Empire, wrote to him, "Your style is excellent and deep and I wish to know more about you." Higher studies being denied him from school attendance he has had to resort, as was said before, to a variety of subjects and Astrology is his forte. Astrology being one of the six main branches of the Vedas is considered a divine science although it is open to vilification and vituperation of fools. The predictory portion of Astrology is generally considered "the iron pease" and in that branch of the science, there are not many in Southern India more competent to announce predictions than he *ex cathedra*. Thus he has earned a name in those parts as an original writer of versatile genius. As regards his other public activities, he took the honour to himself of being the first Elected Union Chairman and the first Elected Union Board President, which function he was carrying out on two successive occasions to the entire satisfaction of the Boards. Another prominent member in his family is in the person of his next elder brother Mr. S. Lakshmi Narayana Pillai, B.A., to whom goes the credit of saying that he is the first graduate and the first gazetted officer among those born in Ettayapuram Zamindary. Another more important factor in the family life of this sketch is the fact that all the three brothers of the family are living together in peace, with fraternal love so conspicuous in them as to be example to be followed and envied by other families similarly circumstanced.

Mr. G. A. Natesan, B.A., F.M.U., head of the Publishing House of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras, and Editor of the Indian Review was born at Ganapathyagraharam, a village in the Tanjore District on the 25th August, 1873. He had his early education in the Town High School, Kumbakonam, St. Joseph's College, Trichinopoly, and finally at the Hindu High School, Triplicane, Madras. He had his collegiate course in the Presidency College at Madras and took his B.A. degree in 1897. It was while in the college that he developed the traits of energy and enterprise that is characteristic of him in his career as a journalist and publisher. He was the secretary of the College Literary Society, organiser of the Debating Society of college-men, and it was in this capacity that he became familiar with the leading men, Europeans and Indians, in the public life of the city, among whom he was to be one in the not distant future.

Mr. Natesan began his career in the days when the intellectuals of the University sought invariably only two avenues, either Law or the Government service. Mr. Natesan had offers from high placed government officials, but they were all incompatible to his temperament and chose what in those days was a queer career, that of a journalist. In December 1896 he was apprenticed to Mr. Glyn Barlow, Editor of the Madras Times, to which Mr. Natesan was writing copiously. Within ten months he acquired a fair knowledge of the technicalities of printing and the business management of the daily newspaper office, and in October 1897 he started a printing press of his own with a modest capital. In those days he was the only graduate among printers and the only printer among graduates, and in this pioneer enterprise he had the warmest support from his brother Mr. G. A. Vaidyaraman. Mr. Natesan had to live down odd oppositions in his novel enterprise, as his own mother strongly dissuaded him, and merely to keep his people in good humour he joined the Law College, though he had not the least desire to practise. All along his business thrived well and he had to give up his pretence to the study of Law and concentrate all his attention and energy to the business of printing and publishing books. The first book that he published was in 1898 entitled the "Indian Politics," and it was a great success and was typical of his later ventures. It was a striking publication with an introduction by the late W. C. Bannerjee, President of the first congress. Among the contributors to the book were three other eminent congress Presidents—Dhadhabhai Naoroji, R. C. Dutt and R. N. Mudholkar, besides many prominent public men of the country like Mr. Eardly Norton etc. The business thrived so well

and excellently that Mr. Natesan was inspired to start in January 1900 a high class journal, "The Indian Review" a monthly miscellany of Politics, Literature, Philosophy and Religion, and was able to enlist a formidable array of contributors among Englishmen and Indians.

Of the magazine we need speak nothing except to record a few of its achievements. The magazine, conducted with ability and distinction, soon made its mark as a powerful exponent of Indian public opinion. Whether it was the Gains of Learning Bill, The Press Law, or the grievances of Indians overseas the Review took its stand and fought many a good fight in the interests of our countrymen. In 1907 it supported the Minto-Morley Reforms and urged the Indianisation of the services. Later in 1919 it espoused the constitutional reforms of Mr. Montagu and pressed for its acceptance while pleading for the liberalisation of the scheme.

In January 1925, on the completion of its 25th year the Review published a Silver Jubilee edition to which the Rt. Hon. Ramsay MacDonald, Lord Hardinge, ex-Viceroy of India, Lord Pentland and Lord Willingdon, ex-Governors of Madras, and a number of distinguished journalists and publicists like Messrs. Garwin, Nevinson and Lord Riddell sent messages of greeting eulogising the services of Mr. Natesan and the Indian Review to the cause of Indian progress.

Mr. Natesan's publishing enterprise is no less marked. Besides the publication of the "Indian Politics," in the early years of the congress, he published a number of books, with a view to popularise the congress and the Indian demand for self-government. Biographies of eminent Indians and friends of India, speeches and writings of leading congressmen and numerous other political literature form a copious yet cheap library of Indian political thought. Not the least important of these is his own book on "What India Wants" an irresistible demand for autonomy within the Empire, which he published in 1817 soon after the famous pronouncement of Mr. Montagu. To these must be added many a book on Hindu Religion and Philosophy and notably the pocket edition of the Gita, of which a hundred thousand copies have already been published. These numerous publications have won for his firm the well merited encomium of the Rontledge of India.

As a politician Mr. Natesan has been no less strenuous. He was an ardent congressman in the early years of the congress and belongs to the school of Dhadhabai, Mehta and Gokhale. When the congress adopted non-co-operation he joined the moderate conference in 1919 and was one of the prime organisers of the Madras Liberal League of which he is the secretary. He was also one of the organisers of the Third National Liberal Federation held at Madras in 1922 and in that year was elected joint general Secretary. Mr. Natesan has always taken a keen interest in the condition of Indians overseas; and during the great South African Indian Agitation he worked in close association with Messrs. Gandhi, H. S. L. Polak and the late Mr. Gokhale. Mr. Natesan was one of the journalists invited by the Government to the Press Camp at Delhi both during the Coronation Durbar of King George in 1911 and the Prince of Wales' visit in 1921. In 1912 he gave evidence before the Public Services Commission when he emphasised the need for the immediate Indianisation of the Services. In August 1921 he was invited to give evidence before the Repressive Laws Committee and his evidence is one of the strongest on record. Early in 1924 he was nominated by the Madras Government to a seat on the Council of State and he brought a new spirit and animation to the body of august elders, for his speechs on the Kenya question and his searching interpellation have added a new zest and stirred the placid atmosphere of the council.

Nor were his activities confined to the Council chamber and the Press and platform. For he early evinced an equal interest in civic welfare and in the University. In 1910 he was elected to the Council of the Madras Corporation and his work both in the Council and in the Standing Committee were so well appreciated that he has been returned again and again with an overwhelming majority and some times unopposed to the Corporation these 15 years. In August 1924 a public address was presented to him eulogising his municipal career. An active member of the Senate of the Madras University, Mr. Natesan has been repeatedly elected to the Syndicate where his services have been untiring. In May 1924 he was chosen with two others to represent the Madras University at the Universities Conference at Simla.

Mr. Natesan has been in public life for over quarter of a century and has distinguished himself as politician, journalist, publicist, senator and a citizen with a keen civic conscience.

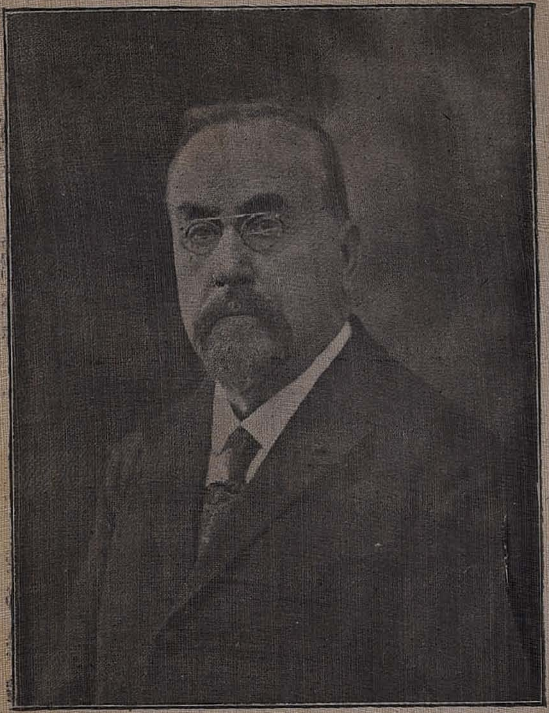
The Present Sri Sankaracharya, of Kamakoti Peeta at Kumbokonam, India, this ancient country of ours, has been subject to many invasions from foreigners from Alexander the Great to the British advent. She has submitted herself to various rulers in the matter of the Government according to varying times and conditions in the onward march of history. At different stages of her history attempts have been made to convert Hindu India sometimes into Buddhist India, sometimes into Mohammedan India and lastly into Christian India. We are now in the last stage when attempts are being vigorously and sedulously made to convert the whole of India into Christianity by the spread of missionary activities in the whole of India. Hinduism has till now survived the onslaughts made on it by Buddhism, and then Mohammadanism and no doubt as was the past so will be the future; it will

survive the onslaughts made against it by any other religion.

Of all the conquests the most abominable and shameful and the most difficult is the conquest of culture. Various inroads have been made slowly into Hindu culture. It may seem as if Hinduism is losing its hold on some people here and there because here and there habits and modes of life have changed from what they were in the past; new amenities of life have been introduced; fresh ways of pleasure have been found out by the introduction of steam and electric power generally and by the spread of English education in particular in India. But in the midst of these new amenities and new avenues of pleasure, and beneath the cropped head and open coat and tie, there glows the Hindu heart with all its effulgence and splendour; the heart of India is safe and sound and it repells all the attacks made against it. The serious view of life is the same as it was of old and in our quest after the eternal truth, why was man created in the world, what for, and by whom, and what is his end, we search in vain and grope in ever growing darkness if we turn to the metaphysicians of the realistic school of the west and to the brilliant geniuses that have invented the steam engine and Aeroplane. Steam-engines and Aeroplanes carry the body aloft indeed with speed and rapidity but they are of no avail in carrying the soul to its destination from where it came. A present day Hindu may borrow the habit of putting on a new set of apparel over his body, he may be proficient in the alien tongue English, he may consult English books for purposes of law and medicine but to satisfactorily get an answer to the eternal problem of life and its object, he never refers to any authors except to his own religion, except to his own spiritual guru, the great Sankaracharya, whose fame and philosophy have travelled all throughout the world and who it is that offers satisfactory explanation of the phenomenon of life and its end and aim. Through his preachings Hinduism has been preserved and developed. As all things mundane should but have an end the body of Sankaracharya is no more but his spirit continues and permeates all throughout the Hindu structure of society by the influence of his works and the institutions that he had founded to preserve Hinduism from degeneration and decay. One of the institutions that he left behind is the ancient Kamakoti Peeta of Conjeevaram. In the eighteenth century the headquarters was removed from Conjeevaram to Kumbakonam and even to-day the Matt there is exerting its holy influence in moulding the thoughts, habits and life of many millions of Hindus in Southern India. It is a stronghold and pillar of Hinduism. The Matt has an interesting history from early times, 8th century A.D. or 6th century B.C. as you please up to date and the occupants of the Peeta have been noted for their extraordinary piety, yogic powers and moral excellence.

The present occupant of the Kamakoti Peeta is his Holiness Srimat Paramahamsa Pari Vrojakacharya Jagadguru Sri Chandra Sekarendra Saraswati Sankaracharya Swamigal. It is a very common saying in Indian economic history that India lives in villages. So also is the case with Hinduism. Villages are the bed rock of our religion. Realising this our Swami is making tours in rural parts like his great predecessor who went and conquered many on his Dik Vijaya, and thus giving fresh vigour and enthusiasm to the upheaval of Hinduism. Whenever he visits a village or town, the whole people there, rich and poor, educated and unlettered alike assemble and bow before him to pay their devotion to the Acharya and to get benediction from him. The Acharya collects money from all according to their capacity and status in life and with that money he maintains many temples, constructs tanks, encourages Sanskrit learning and acquires property for the Matt. It need hardly be said that in the midst of pomp and pageantry always associated with any spiritual preceptor of millions of population the Acharya leads a life of "plain living and high thinking" and is a source of inspiration and example to be followed by many. The one characteristic feature of his tours is whereever he goes he catches the imagination of the younger generation and inculcates into them the spirit of religion and the habit of performing Sandya Vandana which is very often neglected by the English-educated boys. The Swami is not narrow in his views and on the whole he is very liberal, reasonable and posted with up to date knowledge of the world conditions along with his undoubted and supreme knowledge of the Smrithis, Upanishads and Vedas. He is convincing when he argues and even an atheist is irresistibly led to Adwaitism and begins to believe in God under the influence of his personality and argument.

An anecdote is used to be told about him. That is this. While he was touring in a village in Tanjore District a pious Brahmin with his daughter 5 years old came to have Darisanam of the Swami. On seeing the Swami, it seems the child began to weep and ask the parent to get her a Pavadi like the one worn by a girl who was sitting in the lap of the Swami. The child thus was able to see the Saratha Ambikai by his side though to other eyes she was not visible. At once it is told that the Swami ordered the manager under him to go and purchase blue silk fringed with gold and to offer a Pavadi to the child. After giving the Pavadi to the child it is rumoured that the Swami said to the parent, "Please do take your child to home soon. Do not stay away here." The parent came home with the child delighted with the handsome present but lo! in the night the child had gone away from this weary world to another world where she can eternally live in happiness and supreme beatitude in contemplation of her who to her eyes seemed seated in the lap of our present Sankaracharya.



Henry Gaebrle Mayor of Pondicheri

K. R. Srinivasa Iyengar Avl. (page 71)

Viruru Pichaiya Garu (page 72)

His Holiness Sri Sankaracharya Swamigal

TRADE, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES

Md. Aga Abdul Hussain Khoyee Saheb Bahadur, Merchant, Vizianagaram, is the son of late Md. Ebrahim Khoyee and the grandson of the late Hajee Mahomed Saiduk Khoyee, a Persian poet who originally belonged to a town in Khoyee, in Persia. Late Hajee Mahomed Saduk Khoyee, the grandfather of our Abdul Hussain Khoyee, came over to India to trade in the year 1836 and after some years finally settled at Masulipatam, where he later became a merchant. He has earned an immortal name from amongst the students of the Persian language by the highly popular work 'Dewan Sadaquia' which was published at Bombay by his son Md. Ebrahim Khoyee. After the demise of his father the revered poet left Masulipatam and went over to Vizianagaram where he established a firm in his own name forty years ago. The firm commands an extensive business in hides and general merchandise throughout the Indian and the English markets. Md. Ebrahim Khoyee was a shrewd businessman and his tactful management soon won him a good name. He was a simple person, simple in thought and habits, and was of a kindly disposition. He was a very benevolent person and his charities are many and of a varied nature. He lived to an old age of eighty years, all the while leading a very happy and prosperous life; and died very recently in 1924.

His son Aga Abdul Hussain Khoyee Saheb was born in the year 1878. Even while at school in him were displayed the precocious hereditary instinct for business. After a brief period of study he was taken as a partner in the firm of his father, where his keen business acumen was of immense use. In fact the firm afterwards was named Md. Ebrahim Khoyee & Son, and was entirely under the management of Md. Ebrahim Khoyee, and its affairs are being carried on with success and credit.

He is a loyal subject and an esteemed citizen of our Empire and has served the government in the supply of best materials. The Government of India in recognition of his services has awarded him certificates and medals. The Commander-in-Chief and others have also awarded him letters of appreciation. Besides he is no less a public man. He was a member of the Vizianagaram Taluk Board and for many years a member of Local Municipal Council, and he is often chosen to be a member of the public committees, and other bodies. That he should frequently be chosen to sit in public committees itself speaks of his interest in public work and also of the esteem and respect that both the Government and the public cherish for him. His eldest son, Aga Hajee Md. Sadag Khoyee was born in 1903, and though young has given very prospective features of his future life. In recognition of his merits he has been nominated as a member of the Vizianagaram Taluk Board. His second son, Md. Aga Mirza Nasur Ali Khoyee, is also very bright in his business talents and possesses a natural hereditary instinct for business.

Nellikai Venkata Rao of Mangalore comes of a respectable family that migrated to Mangalore from Mysore. The members of the family were appointed as the agents of the Maharaja of Mysore at Mangalore during the regime of Krishnarajah Udayar. As agents it was their business to import jewels, precious stones, horses, etc., to the Mysore palace and in recognition of their loyalty the Mysore Government honoured them with many titles repeatedly year after year during the Desarah Durbar.

The late Gundu Rao, the father of Mr. Venkata Rao, was a well-known merchant at Mangalore dealing in coffee and cardamon and his business extended to all parts of India and Arabia. He was a philanthropist and was an active member of the Municipal Council and an Honorary Magistrate. He was a man of independent and ideal thoughts.

After the death of Mr. Gundu Rao the business of the family fell on the shoulders of Mr. Venkata Rao. Mr. Venkata Rao is a worthy son of a worthy father. He improved the business still further, opened dealings in Cashewkernels and also became the Managing Director of the Canara Conveyance Company Ltd., of Mangalore.

Mr. Venkata Rao is a generous host whose doors are open to visitors to Mangalore. He has been an active member of the Municipal Council for the last three terms and in addition, is the vice-president of the Taluk Board. His public activities are not confined alone to these civic bodies, but also to other departments. He is the vice-president of the District Educational Council, honorary non-official visitor to the Local Sub-Jail and also a member of the Masonic Lodge.

In recognition of his services he was awarded a Coronation Medal and a Certificate of Honour on the occasion of H.M. The King Emperor's Coronation in 1911.

His leisure hours are occupied in gardening and the garden surrounding his residence is the ideal one in the whole District. He is fond of music and sports. As an excellent gymnast and sportsman he always takes a very keen interest in all local tournaments. He has a great mania for curiosities and has a small museum of innumerable collection at his house. He is a gentleman of pleasing and polished manners and is a friend of the poor and the rich alike.

Mr. Nellikai Venkatakrishna Rao, landlord and merchant, Mangalore, is the son of the late Nellikai Srinivasa Rao and has a respectable descent. Late Nellikai Srinvasa Rao was a landlord and merchant chiefly dealing in coffee. The family to which they have the honour to belong traces its home and ancestry to Mysore. It was five hundred years ago that the family moved from there to Canara being specially deputed by the then Maharajah of Mysore. The province of Canara then belonged to the Mysore state and it was to look after the manage this part of the state that the Maharajah sent over this distinguished family. There was also in existence a special Inam called 'Tasthk' granted by the Mysore Government and is continued by the British Government even to this day. The Mysore Government in recognition of the services rendered by this loyal family conferred on them many honours and Sanads.

Late Srinivasa Rao was a Bench Magistrate He was a benevolent personage and was charitably disposed towards his fellow beings. The cause of Education always received at his hands whole-hearted sympathy and generosity. He helped many youths with food, clothing and money. This great benefactor died in 1917, leaving behind him his two sons, Mr. Venkatakrishna Rao and Sundara Rao.

Mr. Venkatakrishna Rao was born at Mangalore in the year 1888. He had his early education at Mangalore itself. Upon the death of his father in the year 1917 he took up the management of the business and estates. Mr. Venkatakrishna Rao is a gentleman of good disposition and has a brilliant and promising future before him.

The firm of **Messrs. P. Albuquerque & Sons—Tile Works** was established in the year 1868 by the late Mr. Paschal Albuquerque, the grand-father of the present proprietor, at Mangalore, in the District of South Canara. The firm had a humble beginning, chiefly dealing in tiles, bricks and lime and within a short time developed the business to a great extent. Mr. P. Albuquerque found it inevitable to remove the firm into the heart of the town of Mangalore in order to command shipping and allied facilities.

The history of the firm ever since its inception is one of uninterrupted and merited success. Soon Mr. Paschal Albuquerque passed away leaving behind his son Mr. J. S. Albuquerque, who at that time was holding a responsible position in the Government Service, but had to resign it to take up the family business. His many-sided activities were of immense help in furthering the interests and management of the firm.

The firm is enjoying good progress and the tiles are used for Government buildings on an extensive scale. Their tiles, flooring and ceiling bricks, ornamental and artistic earthenware, etc., are in wide circulation and they are exported to distant places such as Australia and East Africa. Their produce is also sent to Burma and Ceylon. The firm manufactures slaked and unslaked lime of high quality. They own several large and neatly laid out tracts of coconut and casurina plantations which are much patronised by the elite of the town as a Health Resort.

Mr. Albuquerque besides his own professional duties has worked a good deal for the public cause. He has been a member of the local Municipal Council for over twelve years and was the vice-president of the Mangalore Roman Catholic Provident Fund for nearly fifteen years. For over twenty years he was an active member of the Board of Administration of the Mangalore Cathedral and for several years was a member of the Taluk Board He was a man of pleasing manners and strong personality, and he was the *persona grata* in Mangalore. He died in the year 1908 when the whole public of Mangalore mourned his loss.

His eldest son, Mr. P. F. B. Albuquerque assumed the management of the firm. He has a through knowledge of the business and he exercises personal supervision over every branch of the concern and the business is developing magnificently under his able management. He introduced the latest and novel innovations and modern machinery.

Late Mr. J. S. Albuquerque

Mr. and Mrs. P. F. B. Albuquerque

Aga Abdul Hussain Khoyee Sahib

P. Albuquerque and Sons Tile and Chunam Factories Mangalore S. India

Aga Mohomed Ebrahim Khoyee Sahib

Mr. P. F. B. Albuquerque, Tile, brick, and lime manufacturer and landlord, is the sole proprietor of the firm of Messrs. P. Albuquerque & Sons. He was born on the eleventh June, 1886 in Mangalore and was early educated at Mangalore. After his education was over he entered business. Mr. P. F.B. Albuquerque after he took to business chose a wife in the daughter of a similar businessman the late Mr. L. J. Saldhana the then manager and the sister of Mr. J. Z. Saldhana, the present manager of the firm of Messrs. A. J. Saldhana & Sons. He married her on the twenty-eighth of May, 1912, but a melancholy aspect is attached to the happy wedding. Mrs. P. F. B. Albuquerque after seven years of married life passed away suddenly on the seventh of June in the year 1919 after an attack of Double Pneumonia. Mr. Albuquerque is blessed with one daughter and four sons who are his only consolation.

Mr. P. F. B. Albuquerque is not purely a merchant after commercial pursuit alone, but he is a public man as well. He is connected with almost all the public bodies of Mangalore and strives much to make every organisation a success. He is a Municipal councillor of the Mangalore Municipality. He is the president of The Canara Indian Christian Civic League. He is one of the directors of the Catholic Bank Ltd., Mangalore, and of the Mangalore Electric Supply Co. He is also one of the Directors of the Mangalore Catholic Co-operative Credit Society. He is one of the members of the Managing Committee of The Catholic Union Club and of the Managing Committee of The District Advancement Association. Besides being a member of almost all the Economic and Cultural associations he is also a member of almost all the religious, ecclesiastical and educational bodies. He is one of the founders of The Rosarie Cathedral Church and is a member of the Managing Committee of the Rosarie Cathedral Church Board, Mangalore. He is one of the founders of The Catholic Union Club and was a member of the Managing Committee of the Mangalore Aloysian Association and is the founder and benefactor of several churches in South Canara. He was for some years a Director of The Canara Public Conveyance Co., which he afterwards resigned. He is one of the benefactors of the St. Aloysius College, Managalore, as also of Fr. Muller's Institution. He was one of the members of the Executive Committee of the St. Aloysius College new science buildings for the B.A. class. He is one of the Managing Committee of the St. Aloysius College Boy Scouts, Mangalore.

The thanks of the public of Mangalore are due to him in abundance for his hearty co-operation with the numerous associations of the district. Mr. Albuquerque is still ever ready to render his might to his fellow beings.

The firm of **Messrs. B. M. D'Souza & Sons,** Tile merchants, Mangalore, was started by Mr. B. M. D'Souza at Mangalore in the year 1887. Under the very enterprising habits and able management of Mr. D'Souza the concern very soon developed to a large extent and additional accommodation was found to be absolutely necessary. Therefore the Company was obliged to purchase a site on the bank of the Netravali river and erect an entirely new factory. Coal Kilns were built in this new factory and it was also installed with machines of up-to-date improvements besides two clay-crushers, two pug-mills and several presses, all of which are driven by a 12 horse power steam engine and a 14 horse power boiler. Clay is quarried at a distance of twelve miles from the factory and is brought in carts to the river from where it is carried in boats direct to the factory. There are about two hundred hands working directly under the supervision of the proprietor. The tiles are stamped with the name of the firm over an anchor and the tiles command a wide circulation being exported to distant places such as Zansibar, Mombasa, Dar-es-Salam. The tiles are extensively used both by the Government and the local bodies and almost by every Native State in India. The annual output of the Company is from fifteen to twenty lakhs and they are the best available in the market.

The telegraphic address of the Company is 'Highland, Mangalore.'

Mr. D'Souza is also a merchant and General Commission agent. As a general merchant he deals in coffee, cardamoms, spices, pepper, copra cocoanut and areca-nuts. Mr. D'Souza is a prominent member of the community in Mangalore. He is a Municipal Councillor and the Director of the Mangalore Roman Catholic Provident Fund and is also a member of the Excise Advisory Committee.

Messrs. J. D. Wayeda & Son, Agents, Port Road, Mangalore, was formed by the late Mr. Jetha Dayaram Wayeda of Kathiawar nearly four decades ago. Late Mr. Jetha Dayaram Wayeda had a remarkable career originating from a very humble position. Just at the age of twelve he came to Mangalore as a run away from home and was engaged as a cook to one of the local merchants. As a cook he continued for ten years and then entered as a shop boy the firm of Messrs. Kawjee Hirjee where he remained for twenty years. Later on fortune favoured him and Mr. Wayeda's status was raised from that of a servant to a partner in which capacity he continued for three years.

Afterwards Mr. Wayeda left the firm and opened business in his own name chiefly dealing with spices, areca nuts, copra, coffee, sandalwood oil, etc. He singly wielded the fortunes of the firm for

full twelve years during which period he amassed large wealth. Mr. Wayeda was a silent worker with a very charitable disposition and a real friend of the poor. Few years after bringing the business to a perfection he passed away in the year 1904.

His wife Jamma Bai like her husband is charitably disposed. Her chief engagement is the ceaseless worship of God. Her maxim is 'He who helps the poor is the surest friend of God' and has spent nearly three lakhs of rupees in charities in the shape of feeding and clothing the poor and especially the Sadhus and Sanyasis.

Mr. Manji Jetha is the only son and the present proprietor of the firm. He was born at Mangalore and was educated in English and Guzarathi at Mangalore and Bombay. He joined the business early when he was just in his teens and after the demise of his father he commenced business on new lines quite different from that of his late father. He opened The Dwarakanath Cement Co., Fire and Life Insurance Co., and is an agent to The Manufacturer's Life Insurance Co., The Jupiter General Insurance Co., and the The Universal Fire and General Insurance Co. He also does the import and export business of all the local produce and is very energetic in his business.

Mr. Nellikai Sundara Row, Srinivasa Vilas, Kankanadi Post, Mangalore, is the son of the late Mr. N. Srinivasa Row, and was born at Mangalore. The family to which they have the honour to belong traces its origin and ancestry to Mysore. It was five hundred years ago that the family migrated from there to Canara, being specially deputed by the then Maharajah of Mysore. The province of Canara then belonged to the Mysore State and it was to look after and manage this part of the State that the Maharajah sent over this distinguished family. There was also in existence a special inam called 'Tasthk' granted by the Mysore Government and is continued by the British Government even to this day. The Mysore Government in recognition of the services rendered by this loyal family conferred on them many honours and sanads.

Late Mr. N. Srinivasa Row was a landlord and merchant chiefly dealing in Coffee. He was a bench magistrate and a very benevolent personage charitably disposed towards his fellow-beings. The cause of education always received at his hands the whole-hearted sympathy and generosity. He helped many a youth with food, clothing and money. The great benefactor died in 1917 leaving behind him his two sons, Mr. Venkatakrishna Row and Mr. Sundara Row.

Mr. Nellikai Sundara Row is the brother of Mr. Nellikai Venkatakrishna Row whose life-sketch appears elsewhere. He was early educated at Mangalore till his eighteenth year and afterwards he had to look to the management of his ancestral property.

Mr. Sundara Row belongs to the very respectable family of the Row Saheb of Arani.

Mr. Sundara Row like his father is a very charitable personage and maintains many charities. He is a gentleman of fine qualities and has a bright and promising future before him.

Messrs. H. C. Fernandez & Co., Mangalore. Mr. H. C. Fernandez is the sole proprietor and manager of the well-known and popular firm of H. C. Fernandez and Co., which is a household name in the West Coast. The remarkable success achieved by this firm is due to the indefatigable energy and business capacity, the ever increasing enterprise and enthusiasm of Mr. H. C. Fernandez. Robert Southey, a great English author and philosopher says, "Be sure, no man was ever discontented with the world who did his duty in it." This truism is well illustrated in Mr. Fernandez who would never have room to be discontended with the world for he always did his duty to the best of his ability and conscience. Yet another author Alice Cary says, "Lifes field will yield as we make it, a harvest of thorns or flowers." These memorable lines bear a practical application to the life and achievements of Mr. Fernandez, because he is reaping a harvest of flowers in his business field and he is bound to ascend these heights of success.

Mr. Fernandez started business in the year 1912 as clearing and forwarding agent, and the very next year he enlarged his business by trading in fish, guano, fish manure and fish oil. This was followed up in the third year by trade in coffee, tiles and bricks, success in all the above lines stirred up his ambition to further widen his enterprise. He eventually began to import the famous tobacco from Ellore, in the Kistna District. The year 1923 witnessed addition of another line of business, namely, taxi service. Mr. Fernandez thereby filled up the much-felt want of the public in the District of South Canara in the matter of fast and comfortable conveyance.

The firm are the pioneers in importing matches from Japan to the West Coast and also to Bombay and the firm suggested several patterns and designs for the labels on the match boxes to suit the taste of the Indians and these were readily approved by the manufacturers. One of the labels bearing the name of H. C. Fernandez & Co., Mangalore, Manure Merchants and Sole Importers of Camera Matches made in Japan is finding a great popularity in the Indian markets all over the West Coast and Bombay.

To top all these industries Mr. Fernandez has now on hand the making of Steel safes and has already made rapid progress in this line also by importing from Germany the up-to-date machinery equipment with a view to increase the output.

B. M. D'souza & Sons Tile Works. (page 79)

Nellikai Sundar Rao (page 80)

Aga Mirza Nasar Ali Khoyee Saheb (page 77)

H. C. Fernandez (page 80)

Aga Haji Mahammed Sudaq Khoyee Saheb (page 77)

H. C. Fernandez & Co., specialise in the business of fish, guano, fish oil and manure. The Colombo market has much appreciated the firm and superior quality of the stuff supplied by this firm and are therefore ever ready to purchase this firm's supplies even at a higher rate. It may be mentioned with feelings of pride and satisfaction to Messrs. Fernandez & Co., that no other firm in Mangalore can compete with them in this line. The very mark of this firm, namely, H. C. Fernandez & Co., on the brand, is a synonym for the first-class quality. The foreign markets in Japan and Straits Settlements are among the biggest consumers of this firm's fish, guano and allied articles.

The firm is bound to develop year after year and grow in popularity, and eventually develop in their material advancement also.

Mr. Abner Soans, Coffee Merchant of Mangalore is a self-made man and is a merchant prince. He had a sound education and soon after he gave up studies he entered life in a business line as an exporter of coffee from Mangalore. By sheer dint of self exertion and industry he soon built up a large business and quickly rose to the first ranks of business.

He deals with all varieties of coffee and cashew kernals. He stocks them in large quantities, exports them to all parts of Europe especially to Normandy, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium. Holland, France, England, Italy and also to distant countries like America and Australia. His offices are in Bunder and the telegrapic address is 'Commerce.'

As aforesaid Mr. Abner Soans is a self-made man and has sufficiently seen the world and especially too much of the commercial world. As an expert manager of the business he understands well the minute details and technicalities of the business.

He started as a clerk and finally rose to be the boss of the business. His life is an interesting one and can infuse courage and inspiration to many a youth who has real business talents and capacity.

Mr. Abner Soans is a municipal councillor and is connected with almost all the public institutions of Mangalore.

Messrs. 'Rego Sons,' Tile and Brick manufacturers and merchants, Mangalore, is a very popular house for the best Indian tiles. It was founded and established by the late Mr. D. J. Rego in 1871. It commands an extensive sale throughout India and in fact many of the beautiful buildings in Bombay and moffusil are roofed with Rego's tiles. The tiles are a bit costly but the quality is the best available. The Rego tiles have the registered trade mark of 'The Locomotive Steam Engine" and they are always recognised in the market by that brand. In Portugese Goa they have depots at Panjim—the Capital of Goa, and at Mapusa and Marmagoa.

Since the inception of the business it was progressing steadily and in a short time it was found that the accommodation was lacking to meet the ever increasing demands of the business. In the year 1909 Mr. Rego with much reluctance sold away the old factory and purchased another spacious one which was then in the hands of his maternal uncle, the late Mr. P. P. Lobo. He also bought out the goodwill of the firm 'Lobo & Sons,' Mangalore, 1865.

The new factory is an extensive one with a big frontage on the river side situated on the brink of one of the most important ferries. In the new factory are installed engines, boilers and such up-to-date machinery and also raised coal kilns. In the year 1914 the purchasing agency at Bombay was taken over by this firm in order to be in daily touch with the Bombay market.

Soon after, Mr. D. J. Rego died, leaving behind him his two sons who were too young to run the business. The elder Mr. J. P. Rego is now in charge of the firm at Mangalore and the younger Mr. L. X. Rego manages the Bombay branch. The offices in Bombay are situated at 64, Matharpakady and opposite to the Mazagon Post office. In 1922 the firm was obliged to purchase the good will of another importing firm at Bombay named 'R. Rao & Co.'

Late D. J. Rego the founder of the firm comes of an ancient and respectable Roman Catholic family. He was doing business in tiles in early eighties but he was obliged to give up owing to ill health. After leaving Bombay he started the factory at Mangalore and after raising it to a standard level he left it to his sons to push it ahead. Mr. J. P. Rego and L. X. Rego the two energetic sons of the illustrious founder, spare no pains to improve the business and bring it to prominence, with the result that they are to-day one of the largest exporters of Mangalore tiles, their annual export touching 70 lakhs. Touching the public activities, Mr. J. P. Rego lacks nothing less. He is a municipal councillor, member of the board of adminstration of the Cathedral and the director of The Mangalore Catholic Co-operative Credit Society and one of the Managing Directors of the Catholic Bank Limited started only a year ago. He is a partner and financier of the Imperial Tile Works situated at Kudroali. He has supported many philanthropic institutions at Mangalore, and the late Mr. D. J. Rego is a benefactor of the new Cathedral and of the Kankanadi Hospital. He has instituted a scholarship under his late father's name in the St. Aloysius College. His only paternal uncle, Mr. E. F. Rego, B.A. LL.B., recently retired as the Judge of the Court of Small Causes at Poona. In recognition of his services Government was pleased to confer the title of Khan Bahadur on Mr. E. F. Rego last year.

Khan Bahadur Haji Abdullah Haji Kasim Saheb, M. L. C., of Udipi is the son of the late Haji Kasim Saheb of Udipi and was born on the 9th October in the year 1883. He was early educated under expert educationists as he was a ward under the Government during his early years.

Soon after his education was over he took to the management of his firm and estates. Pure sandal wood oil is manufactured in his firm on a large scale and is exported to all parts of India, Egypt and Arabia. This business is going on from the past fifty years with famous trade mark "H. B." which is recognised in every market as the quality of the manufacture is quite pure. The firm also deals in forest produce etc. Khan Bahadur Haji Abdullah improves the agricultural activities with great zeal. He is the pioneer in introducing the Mauritius Sugarcane plantation into the Udipi Taluk with much success that it is now wide-spread everywhere and throughout the district. He was awarded a Certificate of Merit in the year 1914 for a successful exhibition that he displayed.

Mr. Haji Abdullah Haji is a wealthy landholder in the district of South Canara and his family as a whole is well-known for its public work and charities. It is a custom in his family for the last thirty-five years to distribute rice to the poor. He did much relief work during the recent floods at Canara due to heavy rains in the year 1923. Cloths and provisions were distributed by him free of cost from his own private funds. He constructed a mosque at Moolky and Chatram at Udipi and a Lying-in-Hospital at Udipi for the in-patients of which he made a valuable endowment in the shape of land.

Most of the charities are towards the cause of education. He constructed buildings for the T.B. H.S. Girls School at Udipi and is also running a school for Muhammadan boys. He has instituted two prizes in the Madras University, one to the student who passes in first the Urdu branch of B.A. examination and the other to the first-in-rank student in the Matric examination from South Canara District. He has liberally donated to the Central Hindu College, Benares, to the Muslim Orphanage at Calcutta and to many Anjumans in Kathiawar, besides granting scholarship to poor deserving students of all communities. He is broad-minded and his sympathies are not confined to his community alone but to all communities, irrespective of caste or creed.

He is a staunch public worker and holds many honorary offices. He has been an active member of the District Board and president of the Taluk Board. He was an honorary magistrate for the past seven years. He is the president of The Canara Co-operative Bank Ltd., honorary visitor of the Coimbatore Agricultural College, the Research Institute, the Sub-jail at Udipi, member of the Secondary Educational Board, member of the Elementary Educational Council, president of the Madras Ryotwari Landholders' Association and member of the Landing and Shipping Dues Committee.

He is a fellow of the Madras University and was a member of the Free-reformed Local Council for the Landholders constituency for the District of South Canara and Malabar in the year 1919. He was again returned to the Madras Legislative Council by the Muslim constituency in the year 1923.

The Government in recognition of his public services made him a Khan Saheb in the year 1909 and awarded him a Durbar Medal in the year 1911. The Government in further recognition of his yeoman service to the public cause awarded him a Khan Bahadur on the 5th of June in the year 1920 in the list of His Majesty's birthday honours award.

He has travelled all over India and has visited all the holy shrines and has gone on pilgrimage to distant Mecca and Medina.

Messrs. C. Aaron & Sons, Pappinisserri, Malabar, are the pioneers of cotton goods and weaving. The Company was started at Cannanore by Mr. C. Aaron in the year 1892. Mr. C. Aaron who is now past sixty years of age and leading a retired life paved the way in Malabar for the opening of similar companies.

The whole business is now conducted by his three sons, Messrs. C. A. Samuel, C. S. Aaron, and C. C. Aaron, each one managing a separate department of the concern.

Mr. C. A. Samuel is the General Manager of the whole firm. Mr. C. S. Aaron, being himself a licentiate in textile manufacture of the Victoria Technical Institute of Bombay, manages the Weaving department. Mr. C. C. Aaron is in charge of the Tile works branch which was introduced into the main business in the year 1910.

The business was at first started only with two hand looms turning a few yards of cloth every day and as it stands now Mr. C. Aaron might look with well deserved pride the mammoth development of the business. Now there are three hundred hand looms working in four different places, *viz.*, Chombala, Palayangadi, Cannanore and Pappinisserri where their head office is located.

Weaving by power was started by them in 1923 and now there are sixteen power looms working with other up-to-date machinery. The business was first started at Cannanore but it was subsequently removed to Pappinisserri, 5 miles north of Cannanore. Cotton checks, shirtings, coating cloth, bed sheets, towels, table cloth, etc., are produced in these factories.

The tile works which are under the management of Mr. C. C. Aaron have been considerably improved. Tiles of several varieties for roofing, ceiling and

J. P. Rego (page 81)

C. Aaron (page 82)

L. X. Rego (page 81)

C. Chirukandan (page 83)

A. Soans (page 81)

flooring with the trade mark of C. Aaron & Sons upon them are available in their market in abundance. Paper weights and ornamental tiles are also available in large quantity. They have their depots at Tellicherry, Cannanore, Payyanur, Coccanisherry and Coorg.

The Malabar Weaving Co., Cannanore, is a well established firm founded by the late Mr. Thomas Christian in the year 1900. Mr. Thomas Christian originally belonged to Syria, from whence he removed to Cannanore to open business. The Company now deals in cotton checks, shirtings, towels and bed sheets. They also do dyeing and bleaching work. The Company is now under the management of Mr. A. T. Christian, the son of the late Mr. Thomas Christian.

Mr. A. T. Christian, as he is himself a good mechanic, introduced up-to-date machinery into the firm by a Doubling Machine to twist yarn. The Company's Telegraphic address is "Christian, Cannanore." Mr. Christian is a well educated man and a good scholar. He is an honorary magistrate and licensed Lay Reader of the local Church of England—the St. John's Church at Cannanore.

The Imperial Weaving Establishment of Cannanore was started in the year 1904 by Mr. C. Chirukandan who is now leading a retired life. The establishment is now managed by his son Mr. C. Bappu. They manufacture every variety of cotton checks, drill suitings, imitation silks tweeds, shikaries, sunproofs, shirtings, bed sheets, towels, etc., and all their produces stand unrivalled for durability and comfort.

Mr. Bappu, the Managing Director, was born at Cannanore and he had his education also in Cannanore. He had to discontinue his studies to take up the management of the business. He has much experience in general weaving as he underwent a practical course in dyeing and weaving at Bombay in the year 1911. He is a member of the local Cosmopolitan Club and pursues hobby of the Tennis Game.

He has a younger brother, Mr. M. C. Govindan who is a graduate of the Madras University and is doing business as a merchant in piece goods—woollen and cotton at Ooty.

His another elder brother, Mr. C. Keran is in the Government Service as a P. W. D. Supervisor.

Messrs. M. N. Nair & Sons. Mylapurath Narayan Nair, the Managing Proprietor of Messrs. M. N. Nair & Sons' weaving factory at Calicut, is the son of the late Mr. T. V. Kunhiraman Nair. Late Mr. Kunhiraman Nair comes of an ancient family originally at Cannanore and was the Chief Justice of the Trivandrum High Court and died in the year 1920.

Mr. M. N. Nair had an early and decent education and entered life as an agent representing a big weaving factory of Cannanore in 1908 and continued as such till the year 1921. The advent of non-co-operation and the need for local industries and self-made productions prompted many but it was left to Mr. M. N. Nair to realise so far as Calicut was concerned. So in the year 1921 he gave up the agency work and started his own weaving factory under the name and style of M. N. Nair & Sons and developed his business with his practical knowledge and experience.

At the beginning he instituted only twenty-two looms, but it steadily reached the figure of sixty-five. He later on introduced dyeing. The factory now produces shirting cloths in linen, imitation silks, tweeds, etc., and also fast and good towels and bed sheets.

Mr. Mylapurath Narayan Nair is only thirty-five years old and has already been in the line for the past fifteen years. He is a keen business man endowed with strenuous industry and perseverance. He personally supervises the factory and his tactics in the management are well evidenced in the prosperity of the contented lot of the innumerable workers that are under him and the supreme satisfaction with which the customers throng his factory. The start, work up, and the development and the high esteem the factory is enjoying must be said to his credit and his personal endeavour—purely single-handed. The demands for his products are increasing by leaps and bounds day after day and Mr. M. N. Nair is hardly able to cope with them.

The local press such as 'The Malabar Journal' 'The West Coast Spectator' and 'The Kerala Patrika' all have personally examined the local pioneer industry through their representatives and paid unanimous and commendable tributes to the endeavours and achievement of Mr. M. N. Nair.

Mr. R. Manackjee, Timber Merchant, Calicut, is the present proprietor of the firm 'The New Malabar Timber Yards and Saw Mills, Ltd.', at Kallai, near Calicut. This firm had its origin purely due to the single and solitary efforts of Mr. A. Brown of Calicut who first tapped the resources of Malabar jungles and was the first to realise the importance of the timber available therein. For several years after the middle of the nineteenth century the forest trees of the districts of Malabar were, through ignorance of their qualities, known under the generic term of 'Jungle Wood' and were left uncared and unexperimented. Mr. A. Brown realising that the Malabar timber would prove good and valuable material, started business in timber at

Kallai about the year 1880 and later he was joined by R. Manackjee, the present proprietor. They both carried on business very successfully and thus it was that Mr. A. Brown brought the value of Malabar Timber into prominence. Now Mr. A. Brown has retired and Mr. R. Manackjee is the sole proprietor of the firm.

The area of about five acres of land, upon which the premises now stand formerly consisted of the densest jungles but the entire vicinity is now a veritable Hive of Commercial Industry. The yards and buildings have an excellent frontage on the left bank of the Kallai river, thus affording excellent facilities for transport by water as well as by road, and there is further, a private railway siding from Kallai which is only about two hundred yards distant. Mr. Manackjee holds a standing contract with the Kolar Gold Fields Co., for the supply of twenty-four different classes of timber, all of which were specially introduced by him to the notice of the company. Prominent among other leading purchasers are the Ceylon Government and the Public Works Department of the Government of Madras. An export trade direct to Europe with the consignments of rosewood, ebony and red cidar was carried on for some time. An excellent connection had been established with Hamburg, Antwerp, Havre and London but all had been suspended due to internal troubles in Europe. Large stocks of all kinds of log and sawn timber are kept in stock in order that purchasers who range from builders and merchants to important Government departments may always obtain exactly what they require at the shortest possible notice.

In the firm there are daily working about a hundred coolies and a hundred sawyers. Agents travel to Mysore, Cochin and Travancore forests and all logs excepting those from Mysore as they reach Kallai by rail, are floated on rivers to such places as may be desired.

Mr. Manackjee personally supervises every branch of the concern and takes very great pleasure to see his customers satisfied in every way to their utmost desire and content.

The Star Tile Works Ltd., Kallai.—Mr. Naracasherry S. Krishnan, the Managing Director of the Star Tile Works Limited, Kallai, (South Malabar), was born at Calicut in the year 1894. He is the son of late Mr. N. Swamy, the well-known timber merchant of Malabar. Late Mr. Swamy was an honorary magistrate and a wealthy landlord. He was a philanthropist and a prominent educationist and as such he helped the poor with food and clothing and maintained many students, giving them free boarding and lodging. This benevolent personage soon passed away leaving the business to be conducted by his nephew Mr. N. Krishnan, till his own son, Mr. N. S. Krishnan attained proper age to conduct the business.

Mr. N. S. Krishnan had his early education in the Native High School at Calicut but his taste and temperament was inclined to business rather than studies. Mr. N. S. Krishnan widened his father's concern by starting a Tile Factory in 1921, under the name and style of The Star Tile Works, Limited, with registered office at Kallai. He has fitted the factory with up-to-date machinery and they are driven by a 20 H.P. engine. The present capacity of the factory is an output of 10,000 tiles per diem, including roofing, flooring, ceiling and ridge tiles, in addition to the manufacture of sky lights, ventilators, smoke pipes, flower pots, etc. Many designs in flooring tiles may be had from this factory. Among the customers whom the firm has supremely satisfied by the quality of their materials and prompt attention are many builders, Government contractors, merchants and many prominent men.

The tiles of this firm command an extensive export, being supplied to the markets of East Africa, Bombay, Karachi, Colombo and all over South India. The firm has agencies all over Southern India, principally at Coimbatore, Salem, Trichy, Madras, Bangalore and Madura. Mr. N. S. Krishnan is concentrating all his attention and his indefatigable energy to the excellence of this tile manufacture and his efforts are being crowned with success. He captures every market both in and outside India.

Mr. N. S. Krishnan is not only a keen businessman but also a public worker. He has been an elected member of the local municipal council, and takes a very keen interest in his civic duties, having imbibed the true spirit of citizenship to a very high order. He is a Director of the Nedungadi Bank Ltd., at Calicut and also of the Shoranur Tile Works. He is also very fond of sports and his chief recreation is Tennis.

Mr. Veypalyam Senniappa Mudaliar Sengottaiah, Merchant and Landlord, 'Bakthi Vilas', Coimbatore, was born in the year 1889 at Chennimalai in the district of Coimbatore and comes of a large joint family. Mr. Sengottaiah has six brothers, all of whom own extensive landed properties. They own also a ginning factory at Chennimalai and do business in cotton and yarn.

Mr. Sengottaiah supplies cotton to several mills and he is the yarn and cloth agent to the Coimbatore Spinning and Weaving Company and the Mall Mills Company at Coimbatore and to the Malabar Weaving Co., at Calicut. Mr. Sengottaiah alone attends to the cotton business at Coimbatore, while

Sengottaiah Child Welfare Home

M. N. Nair & Sons (page 83)

Star Tile Works, Ltd., (page 84)

A. M. Nanjappa Chettiar (page 85)

V. S. Sengottaiah

the brothers under the name of Messrs. V. S. Arunachella Mudaliar and Brothers, manage the several branches at Tirrupur, Erode and also the head office at Chennimalai.

At present their concern is the only wealthiest in the locality and commands an extensive influence.

Mr. Sengottaiah and all his six brothers are public-spirited and are philanthropists with liberal views. He is the donor of a new home for the Coimbatore Child Welfare Association called "The V. S. Sengottaiah Child Welfare Home" whose foundation stone was laid by Her Excellency Lady Willingdon in the year 1922. It is a palatial structure situated in the heart of the city in the very compound of The Women and Children's Dispensary and is the first of its kind owned by the Madras Presidency Maternity and Child Welfare Association. Mr. Sengottaiah is a life member of the 'Visva Bharati' the International University founded by Mahakavi Sir Rabindranath Tagore at Santiniketan. He is the Joint Honorary Secretary of the Dharma Paripalana Sabha, Chennimalai, and a member of the Board of the Mahajana High School, Erode.

He is keenly interested in the spread of education and has liberally patronised many educational institutions and has endowed many scholarships for really deserving and poor students. He is also a honorary magistrate. He is very simple in habits and unassuming in manners and is very social. His free and social movements have endeared him to one and all. He is a young and energetic gentleman and has a bright future before him.

Mr. A. M. Nanjappa Chettiar Avergal, 102, Rangiah Gownder Street, Somu Vilas, Coimbatore, is the son of late Malliah Chetty, a great businessman of Coimbatore Town. Late Malliah Chetty passed away in the year 1917 leaving behind two sons, of whom Mr. A. M. Nanjappa Chettiar is the elder and Mr. Rangaswamy Chettiar the younger.

Mr. Nanjappa Chettiar was born at Coimbatore and was educated up to his seventeenth year. After his early education was over he joined his father in business and started business in yarn and cloths. After his entrance into business he improved it a great deal and steadily added it to the main business—agency work in yarn for the Yarn Mills of Pierce Leslie & Co., of Quilon. Twelve years afterwards he further took up the agency work for the Kaleshwara Mills in yarn and the Malabar Spinning and Weaving Mills Ltd. He had also other agencies under him but had to give them up because of extreme pressure of work and lack of time. Fifteen years later he took up the Sub-agency of the Asiatic Petroleum Company for Coimbatore. He constructed the buildings for the Coimbatore Ginning and Oil Manufacturing Company Ltd. He put it on sound running basis and after a time sold it away. The complete net work of his business was built up only by himself and he is a self-made man.

He is also interested in public welfare and also works for the civic needs of the town. He is a member of the local Municipality and a member of the Panchayat Court. He is the Director of several banks such as Amba Vilas Nidhi Ltd., Gajalakshmi Bank Ltd., and The Sita Vilas Nidhi Ltd. He is the President of The Gowri Vilas Bank Ltd.

He is a very chartitable person and he helps the needy and the poor and especially the poor students and is thus encouraging the spread of education.

He is now one of the influential persons in the locality well-known to the public and held in high esteem and regard. Mr. Nanjappa Chetty is blessed with three sons, Messrs. A. N. Maradachalam Chetty, A. N. Ponnuswamy Chetty and A. N. Doraiswamy Chetty. The eldest, Mr. A. N. Maradachalam Chetty separated from his father and is doing independent business for the past five years.

Mr. A. N. Ponnuswami Chetty alone is helping his father and is managing his business in a praiseworthy manner. He was born in the year 1902 at Coimbatore and was early educated in the London Mission High School, Coimbatore. After a sound English education he joined his father's business in the year 1919. He added another line to the business in dealing with Motor Stores. The whole business is now under his management.

Mr. Ponnuswami Chettiar is an enthusiastic young man and qualities of a great businessman are manifesting themselves in him. He is a man of courteous manners, charitably disposed to one and all and is the pleasure and source of happiness to his father in his old age.

Mr. K. S. Ramaswami Gownder, Managala Vilas, Tiruppur, is the son of late Chinnana Gownder of Gowndan Palayam, a village near Tiruppur. Late Chinnana Gownder was a landlord and businessman. Mr. Ramaswami Gownder was born in the year 1877 at Gowndan Palayam. He was given a decent education both in Tamil and English till his fourteenth year. After his early education was over in the year 1891 he took up the agricultural activities and the management of his estates. In the year 1910 he first started at Tiruppur business in grain and local products. In the year 1913 he added to his main business trade in cotton and also the business of the commission agent. He is the commission agent for cotton to the Japanese firms such as Mitsui Bussan Kaisha now doing business under the name and title Tayo Menka Kaisha of Japan. In 1918 he opened a Ginning factory at Tiruppur.

He is an enthusiastic participant of public local activities and organisations and as such holds many honorary appointments. He is the secretary of the local Co-operative Urban Bank and the Co-operative Trading Union, ever since their inception. He is the secretary of the local Sanmarga Sangam. He is the president of the local Theosophical Society. He was the first elected chairman of the Municipality from 1921-23. During his regime and office as chairman the free and compulsory education system was introduced. He has worked a great deal for the uplift of the Kongu Vellala community to which he belongs. He is now the president of the Kongu Vellala Sangam and was the person to open the first conference. He is one of the Directors of the Co-operative District Urban Bank at Coimbatore.

He is a congressman and is the Director of the Tamil Nadu Congress Khaddar Board. He is a patron of the Local and Swadeshi Industries and articles and strongly encourages the use of Khaddar. He is a lover of education and is a very charitable person. He helps the poor students of the locality a great deal. He is a religious person and spends most of his leisure hours in reading and interpreting religious books and Indian Epics.

Mr. P. C. R. Narayanaswami Chettiar, Proprietor, The Ginning Factory, Tiruppur, is the son of the late Puthur C. Ramaswami Chettiar a native of the Puthur village in the Palladam Taluk of the Coimbatore District. The village Puthur has a sacred temple of the God Karnavaradhrajaperumal and is a centre of pilgrimage resorted to by many devotees year after year. It is said that the village is named Puthur because the God Karnavaradharajaperumal emerged from the orifice of an ant hill which in Telugu is called the "Putta." For generations the management of the temple was in the hands of the family of late Ramaswami Chettiar.

Late Mr. Puthur C. Ramaswami Chettiar was a businessman from his sixteenth year. He was a commission agent and a general merchant. At his twentieth year he left his native village of Puthur and went over to Tiruppur where Mr. Ramaswami Chettiar made a great name in the commercial world and had all the qualities of a businessman. After his migration to Tiruppur his business talents and acumen at once shone forth in a prospective atmosphere. He developed the business by introducing banking and the business of import and export of merchandise. Later in the year 1911 he started a Cotton Ginning Factory at Tiruppur. He was very pious and religious and was charitably disposed towards his fellow beings. He was well versed in the Dharma Sastra and was a scholar in Tamil Literature. He was one of the Directors of the Lakshmi Vilas Bank, Tiruppur, and an assessor for a very long time. He died in March in the year 1919 when he was fifty-two years of age leaving behind his two sons, of whom unfortunately the younger passed away a few years back.

Mr. P. C. R. Narayanaswami Chettiar was born in the year 1894 at Tiruppur. The birth of Mr. Narayanaswami Chettiar was marked with good and profitable days to his father late Mr. C. Ramaswami Chettiar. He was early educated at Tiruppur and was specially coached up in Tamil.

He afterwards took up the management of the business and improved it. In the year 1922 in joint partnership with the Rajah of Kollengode he started a Cotton Ginning, ground nut decorticating and rice hulling factory at Pollachi. The factory at Tiruppur is now managed by Mr. Angappa Chettiar, the brother-in-law of Mr. Narayanaswami Chettiar. Mr. Narayanaswami Chettiar is one of the directors of the Laxmi Vilas Bank, Tiruppur.

He is a follower of the Vyshnavite faith. He is an ardent lover of Tamil literature and patronises many Tamil scholars and pundits, himself being a great scholar in Tamil. He has published many books in Tamil and also fine poems called Bakthirasa Keerthanams—songs composed in praise and prayer to God 'Kumaraswami' at Palni. He is a fine musician and endeavours a great deal to the advancement of the art.

He is very pious and scrupulously religious. He is an *upasi i.e.,* he fasts in devotion to Goddess Balambika and through her has gained the power of knowledge to study the past, present and future events. Many people resort to him to learn some information about their own selves. He satisfies them and also cures ailments and provides them with talismans. He does all these things purely for the love of the art and for no reward at all. He also gives clue to the detection of stolen property and also to find out hidden things under the earth. He celebrates every year Dasara festival to Sri Balambikadevi with greatest devotion and pomp.

As characteristic of the family he is very charitable and always helps the poor and the needy. He distributes every year during the Deepavali festival food and clothing to the poor.

He is a gentleman very well known in the locality for his knowledge in mystic sciences and throughout the commercial world for his business talents and capacity. He is young, energetic and affable.

His courtesy and fine manners are touching even to a stranger and for all these qualities he is liked by one and all in the locality.

Mr. M. S. Yesadian, Agent of the Indian Cotton Company Limited, Tiruppur, is the son of the late Mr. Moses who was a landlord at Tuticorin and was born in the year 1876 at Tuticorin. He had his early education in the Caldwell College, Tuticorin. After a decent course of study he entered as a clerk in the office of Gaddum and Company at Tuticorin.

P. C. R. Narayanaswami Chettiar
(page 86)

M. S. Yesadian (page 89)

Boorugu Mahadevu Garu (page 87)

Boorugu Girls' Patasala

Pupils of Patasala

in the year 1891 in which office he soon rose to the position of a head clerk. In the year 1897, he left the office and worked as a broker for the same firm, until the year 1916, when the firm was wound up. As Mr. Yesadian was a keen businessman he soon became the representative of the new Berar Co., Ltd., at Virudupatti. He was also appointed as the chief representative of the Indian Cotton Company Ltd., owners of Ginning and Pressing Mills at Tiruppur.

He was the secretary of the District Church Council at Tuticorin from 1906 to 1916 and was also the Registrar of Marriages at Tuticorin during that period. He is now a Freemason of the Bangalore Lodge.

M. R. Ry. Boorugu Mahadevu Garu, Gold and Diamond merchant, Secunderabad (Deccan) is the son of late Boorugu Nagiah Garu, the well-known charitable and influential person of Secunderabad. Late Boorugu Nagiah Garu was at first an exchange dealer and then gradually developed his business into Silver and Gold. He was very well known for his charitable disposition and generous endowments. He lived to a ripe old age of 85 years and died in the year 1901, leaving behind his only son Boorugu Rajannah Garu, the father of Mr. Mahadevu Garu and two daughters. Boorugu Rajannah garu who passed away in his turn in the year 1906 took upon himself his father's business and developed it a great deal and after hard work put it on a sound basis. Boorugu Rajannah was a very shrewd man and managed his father's business with extraordinary capacity. He continued to maintain all the charities founded by his father and observed them strictly in accordance with the principles laid down in the Hindu Sastras. Boorugu Rajannah left behind three sons and one daughter, of whom Mr. Mahadevu Garu is the second son, the eldest being Boorugu Viswanadham Garu and the last Boorugu Veerayya Garu.

It was Mr. Viswanadham Garu, the eldest son that managed the family business, soon after the death of Rajannah Garu. Mr. Viswanadham managed the business excellently and observed the traditional trait of the family in his generosity and public charities. He was public-spirited and did yeoman service to the Secunderabad public. He built a Girls' School at a cost of Rs. 20,000 and thus encouraged female education. The institution he founded was already in existence under the management of a committee of which he was a member and he further developed it by his handsome donation, which he made a free gift of to the committee. The Girls' School is named "Boorugu Viswanadham's Patasala" after the generous donor. In his days he also opened a rice mill and branch office to his business at Guntur for the benefit of the public of Guntur. He was a member and the secretary of the Kannikaparameswari trust. He constructed a tap at his own cost to supply water during the epidemic season in 1924. He took interest and an active part in the uplift of his community. He was very charitable, and scrupulously orthodox in his views, and whatever he did to his fellow beings by way of charity was done only to serve and satisfy the Almighty God and not for either name or fame. He was quite social and the most influential gentleman available at Secunderabad and his society was often sought for by the gentry of the locality. He commanded the esteem and respect of the public and he was often requested to settle disputes and arbitrate differences. As is usual in this universe so good a gentleman was not to live long, and to the great sorrow of his family, friends and his community and the public at large he passed away soon in the year 1924. Mr. Boorugu Mahadevu Garu took up the management of the business on the sad and premature demise of his brother late Viswanadham Garu. Mr. Boorugu Mahadevu Garu is managing the business with the help of his younger and only surviving brother Mr. Veerayya Garu and both the brothers are conducting themselves after the manner of their father and forefathers, and are keeping up the tradition of the family. Mr. Mahadevu Garu like his father and brother is a great lover of education and is ever a generous donor and subscriber to all educational institutions and their activities. He is a member of the Kannikaparameswari Temple Committee and the Girls' Patasala Committee. He gave a liberal donation to the Child Welfare Association at Bolaram and a similar large sum to the Viceroy's Leper Fund and the Japan Relief Fund. It is a matter of gratification that Mr. Mahadevu Garu is blessed with three sons and a daughter and is spending his days happily and usefully to others.

Mr. Boorugu Veerayya, the only younger brother of Mahadevu Garu, is educated in English and is helping Mr. Mahadevu in his business, sharing all good and bad with him. He is one of the trustees and representatives of the Deccan Vysia Association. Mr. Veerayya is also blessed with a daughter.

Rao Saheb A. L. Shirgoakar, Merchant, British Cochin, is the son of the late Lakshman Sirgoakar, a government officer of the Bombay Presidency, and comes of a Saraswat Mahratta Brahmin community. Late Lakshman Sirgoakar was well versed in music and was very fond of the art. He was a great philosopher and every conversation with him used to be only about philosophy and he discussed questions on the subject in a very pleasant and lucid manner. After his retirement from service he removed to Karwar in North Canara, where he led a retired life for some time. He passed away in the year 1910.

Rao Saheb A. L. Shirgoakar was born at Vengurula in Ratnagiri District in the Bombay Presidency in the year 1863. He was early educated at Bombay

and after the completion of his studies he went over to British Cochin, to learn business under his father-in-law. His father-in-law, Mr. Ramachandra Mahadev, was then attached to the firm of Volkart Brothers and he readily took his son-in-law as an apprentice under him. After three years' training he became a partner in a firm started under the name of Messrs. Ramachandra Mahadev and Co., in British Cochin, which he is continuing even to this day. The firm deals in exporting the local produce throughout India and to the foreign countries.

He is a public worker, and takes very keen interest in the civic affairs and their improvements in the town. He was connected with the local Municipality for twenty years as member, vice-chairman and finally as chairman. His term of office ceased in the year 1920. Of his work in the Municipal Council and his interests in the civic welfare of the city nothing need be said than merely to quote the tribute paid by no less a distinguished personage than Lord Pentland, the then Governor of Madras. His Excellency said, "He has displayed conspicuous energy, and has considerably improved the administration of the Municipality. He has applied himself with keenness to the solution of many Municipal problems which had been discussed for years in Cochin and has succeeded in making a distinct advance, notably with regard to the questions concerning water supply, drainage, sanitation, and the selection of sites for the hospital. He enjoys the respect and confidence of all the classes." Besides he is the president of the Cochin Club. In recognition of his public services he has been awarded the distinction of a Rao Saheb in the year 1914.

He is a religious and orthodox personage and spends much of his time in reading religious books and ancient epics.

He has two sons, Mr. Manohar A. Sirgoakar and Mr. Manasanthosh A. Sirgoakar. The elder, Manohar A. Sirgoakar, is now doing a private export business of his own and the second son, Mr. Manasanthosh A. Sirgoakar, is undergoing business training under his father.

Mr. Vupputuri Venkatapunniah, Merchant, Guntur, is the son of the late Mr. Vupputuri Narasimham and was born at Pondugula, a village near Amaravathi, in the Guntur District and came of a poor family. While late Narasimham Garu was still a child about three years old the whole family which consisted of the parents and a younger brother to Mr. Narasimham named Mr. Gurunadham removed over to Guntur for a permanent settlement. The brothers after receiving education from the local school commenced to enter into business. They rendered their services to some of the firms in Guntur and during this period Mr. Narasimham the elder brother displayed symptoms of shrewd business tactics and grasped the management and organisation of trade. He soon set himself up for independent business in piece goods. Later his younger brother joined him in the business and the business was run under the name of Mr. Vupputuri Narasimham.

The brothers carried on the business in so able a manner that when the accumulated property was divided between them each got nearly a lakh of rupees.

Mr. Vupputuri Narasimham after setting up independent business improved it considerably and became the master of a few lakhs of rupees. Late Mr. Narasimham was ever charitably disposed towards his fellowmen. During his last days he spent thousands of rupees on charities and on endowments for the construction of a choultry. He passed away in the year 1918, leaving behind him his only son Mr. Venkatapunniah to look after the huge concerns left behind.

Late Vupputuri Gurunatham, the uncle of Mr. Venkatapunniah, after partition from the joint firm set up his own business in piece goods. He later added a rice factory to the concern and amassed a large fortune in a short time. As he was not blessed with issues he adopted a boy of his community. Unhappily the adopted child breathed his last which greatly upset Mr. Gurunatham. He devoted himself to do good to the poor and the needy with all the necessary requirements and gave away a large part of his property in charities.

He established a choultry at Guntur to feed the Brahmins and the Vysias, and provided the local Kannikaparameshwari temple with a watershed and with an endowment for the daily puja services. He sank a tank at the crossing of the roads which run to Amaravathi Ponnikal and Thatikonda. He endowed for the supply of rice to the sadhus and erected a building on the mountain at Bezwada for their shelter. He desired to perform Saptha Santhanas (seven acts of Dharma) *viz.*, the digging of a well, burying a treasure, presentation of a house to a Brahmin, building a Siva temple, raising a garden and the dedication of a book in his name. Of these seven benevolent acts he was able to complete the first three and while he was engaged with the construction of a Siva temple he died leaving the acts to be completed by his nephhew Mr. Venkatapunniah. Mr. Gurunadham also spent much in charities and endowed a large sum for the maintenance of local institutions and pursued all the charitable walks in life that is becoming of a Hindu.

During his last days he allowed his wife to adopt a son by means of written declaration but she preferred to remain without adoption and after her death the property by reversionary right went back to Mr. Venkatapunniah Garu.

A. L. Shirgoakar (page 87)

Gurunadham Garu

V. V. Punnaiya Garu (page 88)

Gurunatheswaralayam

D. Maneckji (page 89)

The tank near Tatikonda

Mr. Venkatapunniah was born in the year 1904 at Guntur and received his early education from the local Town High School. He passed the Matriculation examination in the year 1920. He gave up studies on political grounds and privately studied Sanskrit for two years.

In 1922 he took the management of his father's business. He added many new lines to the business such as cloth mills agencies and opened rice, ginning, and oil factories at Tenali and Mangalagiri and also introduced the business of banking.

He is a pious and religious man and takes great care to maintain the traditional principles of the family. Like his fore-fathers he is kindly and generously disposed towards his fellow beings. He is continuing all the charities opened out by his elders and completed the huge construction of Siva temple.

He is the Secretary of the Arya Vysia Young Men's Literary Society of Guntur and this society stands forth in prominence in the whole of Andhra Desa on account of its excellent library and Mr. Venkatapunniah takes very great interest to improve it in every possible way. He takes a great interest in improving and promoting the study of Oriental languages and publishes religious pamphlets for the benefit of the public. His name is well-known to all in Guntur and Andhra Desa. He has many more years before him for serving the country.

Messrs. D. Maneckji and Co., General Merchants and Commission Agents, Calicut, is a widely known firm founded in the year 1860 by Mr. Dhunjibhai Maneckji Mugaseth, a Parsi gentleman of Bombay, who afterwards also acted as sole broker of Messrs. Pierce Leslie and Co., Calicut. Later Mr. Bhunjibhai Maneckji Mugaseth was joined by his two elder sons, Mr. Jehangir D. Mugaseth and Mr. Maneck D. Mugaseth into active partnership.

Once the firm was the leading export house in Malabar doing extensive business in coir yarn, ginger, timber, copra and other West Coast produce. They imported piecegoods and hardware on a large scale from Europe and distributed them to Malabar merchants and tradesmen. The firm were, besides, ferry-contractors for many years in respect of several of the rivers in Malabar. They were also Abkari contractors for a time, and were the sole suppliers of salt to the government, when this article represented a State monopoly. They were building contractors too and as such have executed many Revenue, Public Works, and Military works achieving splendid results, through which they have earned several testimonials and other complimentary acknowledgments. The supply of fuel to the old Madras Railway Company was yet another of the firm's varied activities, the quality of their supplies giving the fullest satisfaction. The founder of the firm was the pioneer of steam saw mills in Malabar, having laid down the first steam saw mill in Malabar on the banks of the Kallai river, and worked the enterprise successfully for several years. He also started a tile factory at Feroke, on the banks of the Beypore river, this enterprise being one of the earliest of its kind in the district.

Mr. Mugaseth did not permit his export and import business to consume all his energies and enterprise and it was not long before he found his way to the Wynad plateau where he opened the Wynad Coffee Plantation. About the same time he developed traffic facilities on the Beypore river by establishing a steam-launch service, which proved highly serviceable until it was rendered largely superfluous by the extension of the railway to Beypore.

After a time Mr. Maneck D. Mugaseth, the founder's second son, was appointed as the assistant manager of the Sivaganga Zamindary, and so he had to sever his connection with the company, and lived at Sivaganga till his death. Later Mr. Jehanjir D. Mugaseth also left the firm, to start his own business at Trichur which he pursued till his death at Calicut in 1914. After these several changes in the year 1911 the founder, Mr. Dunjibhai Maneckji Mugaseth, retired from active life placing his youngest son, Mr. Khodabad D. Mugaseth in charge of the firm. The illustrious founder lived to a ripe old age of 90 years and peacefully passed away in the year 1920.

The firm now deal for the most part in coir yarn, timber, copra, ginger, etc., which are exported to Europe and to important Indian ports. They are also the sole stockists and distributors on the West coast of the world-wide Deopold Cassella and Co's German dyes. Besides the firm holds the agencies of the Standard Life Assurance Co., the Royal Insurance Co., and the South British Insurance Co.

Mr. Khodadad D. Mugaseth displays many of the fine business instincts and qualities of his father, and they afford promise of a continuance of the good name the firm have built up during over half a century.

The Krishna Jute and Cotton Mills Co., Limited, of Ellore was formed in July 1904 by Messrs. Mothay Gangaraju and Mothay Subbarao. Messrs. Mothay Gangaraju and Mothay Subbarao were desirous that the whole of the shares to be issued should be taken up by residents in the town or in the neighbourhood of Ellore in the District of Kistna and they were not disappointed in this respect as with a nominal capital of five lakhs of rupees the sum of Rs. 4,48,500 was subscribed locally. It was originally proposed to erect buildings for the milling of jute and cotton, and although

a factory was constructed, and necessary shafting was installed in connection with the latter commodity, no further steps have been taken with regard to that portion of the proposal. The jute mill which was completed in 1907 is a substantial brick and stone building, with structural iron work and it comprises a main hall, godowns for jute and sundry tools, workshops, stores, boiler and other tools, offices and manager's bungalow.

The machinery, the best of its kind, obtained through the well-known firm of Messrs. Marshall Sons & Co., Ltd., of Gainsborough, England, and of Bombay consists of one steam engine of 750 H.P., two boilers, and an emergency boiler purchased from Messrs. S. Imman & Co., Ltd. The most modern description of plant has been secured from leading makers, and it includes machinery for the following purposes:—jute softening, breaker cards, finisher cards, first drawing, second drawing, roving, 1908 spindles, warp and weft, winding, beaming, 85 looms, measuring, damping, calendering, cutting and baling press. There is, further, a cleaning and teasing machine, which is used for the second handing of wastage from the first process, the resulting product being available for making ropes for tying bales. Three-ply and five-ply twists are made for stitching and darning bags, as well as for sale.

About 10,000 gunny bags are made in the mill every day and this as a rule involves the consumption of from 30 to 40 candies of jute, although the actual output depends largely upon the quality of the raw material. The standard sizes of bags are 40 × 29 L.K. 40 × 31 L.K. 40 × 28 Heavycee, 40 × 28″ D.W. 40 × 24″ L.K. 34 × 28″ Striped and other sizes. About 10,000 candies (500 lbs each) of jute are required annually, but an ample supply is procurable in Kistna and adjoining districts, the best samples being obtained in the neighbourhood of Vizianagaram.

There is always an exceedingly good demand for gunny bags throughout Southern India, but the supply is invariably insufficient during the harvest season, from November to March. Sewing of the bags by hand is considered to be far more satisfactory than work done by machinery. Cloth 30″ in width is woven under contract.

A good supply of water is secured for the mill by gravitation through pipes from a canal which is fed by the river Kistna, and there is, in addition, a storage tank in the compound which is capable of holding a sufficient quantity for nearly five months. The workshops are fitted with lathes, circular saws, machine for drilling, wood-turning, and planing, and all ordinary repairs for the Company's mill and for others in the vicinity are carried out by skilled mechanics. There is also a foundry.

The premises are about a mile and a half distant from the railway station at Ellore, and they cover an area of about 8 acres. The operatives include men, women and children (all of whom are obtained locally) and constant work is found for about 900 persons.

The mill is one of the oldest jute mill in the Presidency. The mill has been equipped with a big workshop, fitted with lathes, circular saws, machines for drilling, wood-turning, and planing. Iron and steel castings and mechanic repairs are also undertaken and executed promptly at moderate rates.

The mill is purely an Indian concern supported by Indian Capital and Indian Directors. By the keen and farsighted supervision of M.R.Ry. Mothay Gangarazu Zamindar Garu, secretary and treasurer, the Company earned good profits and an aggregate sum of Rs. 210 was paid in Dividends from 1915, on each share of Rs. 100.

M.R.Ry. Mothay Gangarazu Zamindar Garu, an ex-member of the Legislative Council, Honorary Magistrate of Ellore, is the secretary and treasurer and the chief promoter of the mill, who financed it with lacs of rupees in its early years, developed it in all directions by his efficient methods and management, redeemed it from all debts in the course of a few years and put it on a substantial basis.

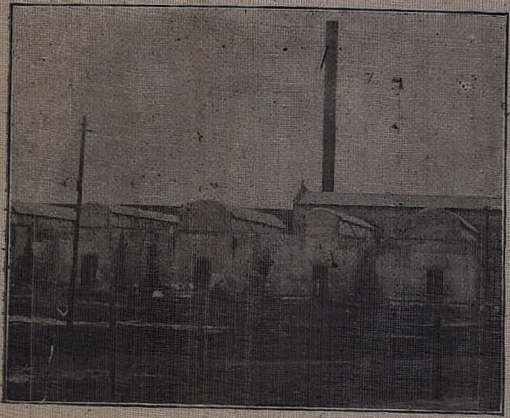
M.R Ry. Mothay Narayana Rao Zamindar Garu, M.L.C., was appointed joint secretary and treasurer in 1922 to help his uncle, the above secretary. He is a gentleman of good enterprise, and speculates with foreign countries, such as England and America. He is also efficiently and capably conducting the affairs of the mill to keep up the name of his noble father.

Both Mr. Mothay Gangaraju and Mr. Mothay Narayana Rao have interests in the well-known rice mills which is the oldest and the largest in the town.

Mr. E. A. Smith is the manager and the engineer of the mill.

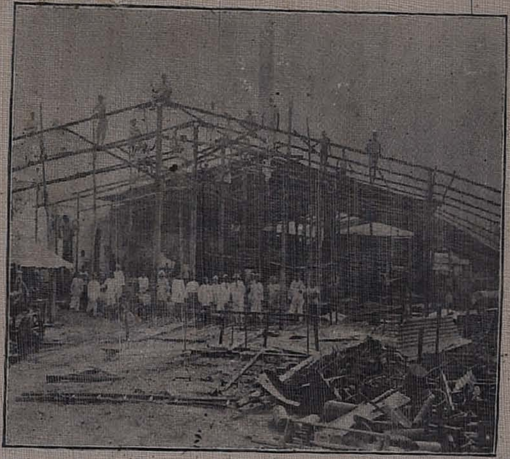
Messrs. Seela Veerabhadrudu and brother, Piece goods Merchants and Commission Agents of Rajamundry, was first founded by the late Mr. Yarakayya of Rajamundry. He started business in clothes and steadily built up a large business. Later he was joined by his son Mr. Seela Veerabhadrudu who worked up well and developed further the business of the concern. Though the business was started only in piece goods, after Mr. Veerabhadrudu joined it, he introduced dealings in country produce and gunny bags. Now the firm supplies to the public cotton and silk clothes, dhoties, upper garments, sarees, shirting and coating cloths of various patterns and designs. The firm does banking business and they are also commission agents. They are the agents to 'Buckingham' and 'Carnatic' Mills of Madras, and 'Bangalore Woollen Cotton and Silk Mills Com-

(page 89)



Front View

Engine Room



Extension of Workshop

Winding Dept.

Weaving Dept.

pany Limited,' and also of the 'Seetharam Spinning and Weaving Mills of Linnter' of Trichur, Cochin State.

Mr. Seela Veerabhadrudu, the managing director of the firm, was born at Rajamundry in the year 1884. When he was twelve years of age, he joined the business concern of his father and from thence he had been developing the business all round. Now he is also helped by his younger brother Mr. Sambamurthy who is equally a businessman.

Mr. Seela Veerabhadrudu is very ardently interested towards the spread of education. He has given a large sum by way of donation to the local Vidya fund, devoted to the educational advancement of his community. He also holds many honorary offices. He is a member of the local Municipality, the Taluk Board and the District Board.

He is a pious gentleman and has presented a building worth Rs. 4,000 to be used as the temple of the goddess Ramalinga Chowdeswari.

Mr. Randhi Appalasawmi Garu, General Merchant and Commission Agent, Rajamundry, is the son of Mr. Randhi Appana Garu. Mr. Randhi Appanna Garu is a D. P. W. contractor and is also doing paddy business.

Mr. Randhi Appalasawmi was born in the year 1889, at Rajamundry. He was given only vernacular education and that till his 14th year. At an early age he took to business and joined his father's concern to be trained by him. The whole business was being done only on a small scale then. He introduced the importing of aluminium ingots and sheets. After some time he desired to be independent and divided from his father and brothers in the year 1917 and set up business on his own account. He first started with importing of paddy and aluminium. Afterwards he purchased a rice mill and started business in rice also. The mill is situated at Pandalapalla in the Godaveri district and is named 'Sri Satyanarayana Rice Mills.' He is also a commission agent since the year 1918. He also does importing business in metal sheets and ingots from foreign countries. He is a banker too and does much banking business.

In respect of his public activities he is a Municipal councillor since the year 1918 and is now its deputy chairman. He loves education and helps many poor students, besides taking upon himself the education (up to the school final standard) of six poor students. He is doing his best to facilitate the spread of education.

He is now a leading citizen of the Velama community and does his best for the uplift of the community as a whole. Besides this he is keenly interested in the elevation of the depressed classes and does everything by personal example, adopting progressive methods in every walk of life.

He is a very courteous and good gentleman and is easily accessible to one and all. He has a good number of years before him to render humane service to the people at large.

Mr. Jupudy Seshageri Row Garu, Landholder and Banker, Innespetah, Rajamundry, is the son of late Mr. Sarayya Garu of Kottapalle, Bhimavaram Taluk in the District of Godaveri. Late Sarayya Garu comes of a family well known for its business talents. In the year 1904 Sarayya Garu went over to Rajamundry and settled there with a view to further the business. Late Sarayya himself was a good businessman and enjoyed good prosperity.

Late Sarayya Garu was very orthodox and religious and was very charitable to the suffering and the needy. He was very pious and observed all the rules of Hindu philosophy and religion. Most of his leisure hours were spent in reading Hindu Epics especially the Ramayana and Mahabaratha and also led his life in accordance with the finest examples set forth in the great Epics. He dug a well for public use in the village of Kaligota in the Bhimavaram Taluk and constructed a temple pillar called the Dwajasthambam in the Kottapalle temple.

It was on the 7th of January in 1917 after the morning bath and the performance of the morning ablutions and worship that Mr. Sarayya passed away at the ripe age of sixty-two years. He leaves behind him a son and a daughter, the son being Mr. Seshageri Row.

Mr. Seshageri Row Garu was born on the 12th of September in the year 1892 at Guntur, where his maternal grandfather was a Tahsildar. He was early given vernacular education up to the fourth standard at Kotapalle. In the year 1904, when he was only twelve years of age, he was taken over to Rajamundry and was educated for the University entrance examination. After completing his education he joined the business of his father to be trained by him. He had a very good training under his father and was progressing fairly well. In the meanwhile he had to suffer domestic afflictions, for he lost his beloved mother on the 20th of June in the year 1914 and three years afterwards in 1917 he lost his father too. Because of the sudden expiry of his parents he had to take upon himself the whole responsibility of the business and well did he meet wordly troubles and difficulties. He steadily built up the whole concern in an excellently remarkable manner purely single-handed.

Like his father he is also religious and quite charitable. At Rajamundry in 1923, in memory of his parents, he built a choultry, for the convenience of the patients coming to Rajamundry for treatment. In this choultry there are two wards of four rooms

each with kitchens behind. One ward is in the name of his father and the other in that of his mother, and thus he is keeping the name of his parents fresh and alive for ever. Besides he is continuing many other charities founded by his father. He has presented a room to the Vedapatasala at Saripalle in the Bhimavaram taluk.

He is a public worker and holds many honorary offices. He is an honorary magistrate. He is a member of the local Town Hall, the Hindu Samaj and a life member of the Gantami Library.

He is a good athlete and a gymnast. He is a lover of Tennis and himself pursues the game with great delight and interest. He has presented a rolling cup to the Tennis Tournament held annually in the Northern Circars.

A man of pleasant manners, quite civil and courteous to one and all, he has many years of useful service to the motherland.

Mr. A. P. L. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai, M.R.A.S., F.R.E.S. Banker, landlord, Devasthanam committee member, president, Taluk Board of Pattukottai, is the son of Vythialingam Pillai and comes of a respectable parentage. He is commonly known in the locality by the pet name of Chinnu. His maternal grandfather, late A. P. L. Palaniappa Thevar, was a millionaire and was the first emigrant from the family to Saigon in French Cochin China, in the middle of the nineteenth century. During his sojourn there he accumulated and came in possession of properties worth in millions at the present day.

Mr. Nadimuthu Pillai was born in 1900, and from his boyhood he displayed a characteristic sign of intellect and intelligence. He was the beloved pet of all the members of the family and especially of his grandfather, late Palaniappa Thevar. Late Palaniappa Thevar was much struck by the budding intelligence of the boy and took particular care to bring him up well and put him to school at Pattukottai. Afterwards he was educated to a standard enough to manage the business, and was sent by his grandfather to Saigon, to manage the extensive properties earned by him. Mr. Nadimuthu Pillai, young though he was, readily undertook the travel and went over to Saigon. There he utilised every opportunity to develop business and business skill and soon became a first rate business man. In the midst of his overwhelming business he travelled extensively, visiting all the important places such as Ankor-vat, Ankor-thom, Bankok, Siam, Cambodia, Siem-Prep, learning all along a very many new languages such as French, Malai, Anamese. He is now a linguist knowing several languages. During his stay there he built a Hindu temple for the many Hindu residents domiciled there. It must be said to his credit that he was not slow to perceive a longfelt want and supply it forthwith. He returned to India in 1921, after having gained vast business experience. Just when he returned his venerable and beloved grandfather was failing in health and everything was in utter confusion, and the management of affairs at home was hopelessly bad.

Soon after his return, he took up the management of the house and began to set right everything. Unfortunately three years after his return, his beloved grandfather passed away, to the regret of all.

Nadimuthu Pillai inherited the whole of his property, by a settlement deed executed by his grandfather in his favour. By this means Mr. Nadimuthu Pillai now owns, besides the extensive properties at Saigon, landed properties in five taluks of this District, bearing Government assessment of about Rs. 15,000 per annum. He also owns large cash and house properties.

He is a public man and endeavours a great deal for the amelioration of the suffering humanity. He tried to bring radical changes in the taluks of Pattukottai and Arantangi, and interested himself a great deal in the public life of these two taluks. The Government perceived his keen interest in public welfare and nominated him as a member of the District Board, Tanjore. Soon after he was also made a member of the Taluk Board, Pattukottai, and in recognition of his philanthropic attitude, in the year 1924 he was unanimously elected as the president of the Taluk Board, Pattukottai. In that capacity he could do more good to the public and in fact spares no pains to acquaint himself of and redress the grievances of the villagers. With the characteristic enthusiasm of his youth and untiring energy and eagerness, he pays his whole-hearted attention to the affairs of the Taluk Board. He has opened fifty new elementary schools, opened many dispensaries, constructed new roads and has provided sanitary facilities, so far it lies in his capacity as president of the Taluk Board. In consideration of the several improvements, it must be said to his credit, that on the whole his regime is a zealous and brilliant one.

He is a great scholar in Tamil and loves Tamil literature immensely. He is patronising many Tamil scholars, and is the president of the local Tamil Sangam, where eminent lecturers are invited from different parts to deliver lectures on Tamil literature. Poets and scholars ever find in him a ready welcome and a warm support and ample reward according to their merits. Besides Tamil literature, he takes much interest in Education both oriental studies and occidental. The poor boys in the town have found in him a ready supporter and none were ever turned out without ample help. The 'Palaniappan Hostel' located in a spacious building for the accommodation of the boys of the high school, owes its origin and continuance to his unstained spirit of philanthropy. The Young Men's Literary Association at Tanjore owes its

Jupudi Seshagiri Rao (page 91)

Randhi Appalaswamy (page 91)

F. X. Pereira (page 93)

A. P. L. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillay (page 92)

existence and flourish to Nadimuthu Pillai, of which he and Dewan Bahadur C. Vijayaraghavachariar are the two patrons. He has been recently elected as a member of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland. (M.R.A.S.) and as a Fellow of the Royal Economic Society.

He is God-fearing and has a religious turn of mind. While he was in Saigon he built a Hindu temple there and supplied a longfelt want. He spends large amounts on the renewal of old and dilapidated temples, and he is munificent in his donations towards this purpose. In recognition of the endeavours in this line he has been made a trustee of the local temple. He is also a member of the Devasthanam Committee, Negapatam, a position which by his status and qualifications he richly deserves.

Mr. Nadimuthu Pillai is a very liberal and kind hearted gentleman ever ready to help the poor. In memory of his late beloved grandfather he has founded a choultry with a beautiful archway where all classes of people irrespective of caste or creed are fed day and night.

Mr. Nadimuthu Pillai is always gay, jovial and fond of sports of every kind and above all easily accessible to young and old, rich and poor and the literate and the rustic.

He is a member of the Cosmopolitan Club, Madras.

Messrs. F. X. Pereira & Sons of Tuticorin dealing in drapery and millinery is the pioneer firm of its kind in the Bharata community. It was founded in the year 1889 in Colombo by the late Mr. F. X. Pereira of Tuticorin—a very persevering merchant. The firm first started in Drapery and Millinery lines and continued developing the business to such an extent that they were appointed suppliers to the Government of Ceylon. Before leaving Ceylon Her Excellency Lady Ridgeway had spoken highly of this firm in her letter.

When the sons took charge of the business they further extended it and their present activities, besides the Drapery and Millinery departments, are Indenting, Exporting Indian and Ceylon produces to foreign countries, forwarding and Insurance agencies and they are the agents for the Scindia Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., of Bombay at Colombo, Galle, Tuticorin, Colachel, Trivandrum and Quilon. They are the proprietors of the Bravi Senna Press, where baling of senna leaves and pods is carried on, and the Bravi Motor Works where they deal in motor cars, motor cycles and their accessories. They are also iron safe manufacturers, besides contractors to the Tuticorin Harbour Works.

The photo that appears elsewhere is that of Mr. Pereira, the eldest son of the late Mr. Pereira and he is now the senior partner of the firm. He is a nice gentleman of fine manners and is the first elected member of the Indian community to the Ceylon Legislative Council.

Mr. Narottam Dass, Contractor, Secunderabad, is a native of the United Provinces and is the son of the late Lala Ram Prasad, Banker of Mirzapur. About 30 years ago Mr. Dass emigrated from the United Provinces and settled at Secunderabad.

Mr. Narottam Dass pursued his old business of a contractor and rapidly developed it within a few years of his settlement. He conducted his business in a praiseworthy manner and undertook several Irrigation Projects, Public Buildings and Roads. The magnificent High Court building and the Oosmania Hospital are some of the buildings constructed by Mr. Dass. The Hospital and High Court buildings are grand pieces of architecture constructed after the Moghul fashion with fine domes and stands singularly enshrinning the whole neighbourhood with its magnificence and splendour.

Mr. Narottam Dass is a benevolent gentleman with a generous heart and a liberal hand and is a silent worker and he does not wish that others should know of his munificence and charity.

As his charities are carved out generally in secret it is not possible to chronicle them in detail. On the whole Mr. Narottam Dass is known to the public as a gentleman with an unbounded spirit of philanthropy and generosity towards his fellow beings.

Rao Bahadur Muthyala Venkatakrishnayya Garu of Gung Bazaar, Secunderabad, (Deccan) comes of an old long line of well-established respectable merchant family, well-known as the Muthyala family. The Muthyala family traces its origin to an ancestral village named Desaipet, in the Bezwada Tâluk, of the Nizamadabad District in the Nizam's Dominions. It was after the year 1820 that the emigration to Secunderabad took place.

The Pedigree of the house is a long one. Muthyala Moniah, the grandfather of Venkatakrishnayya, and Muthyala Govindu were two brothers, of whom the latter was the elder, and they were originally living in the Desaipet village, of the Nizamadabad District, in the Nizam's Dominions. Muthyala Moniah, the younger brother, had four sons, of whom, Sivalingam was the son by his first wife and Muthyala Nagiah, Ananthiah, and Venkiah were the sons by his second wife who also died premature, while all the children were quite young. Consequently, they were all looked after by their eldest step-brother Sivalingam. After the year 1820, Sivalingam, Ananthiah, and Venkiah emigrated to Secunderabad where they permanently settled and carried on trade leaving behind Nagiah alone in the village.

Nagiah remained in the village and carried on trade on his own account and after some years he passed away. His sons and grandsons are carrying on trade in the adjacent village, without any connection whatever with the Secunderabad Muthyala family.

After a well-founded settlement the brothers namely Sivalingam, Ananthiah, and Venkiah opened a wholesale grain shop called 'Monda Dukan' under the name and style of Muthyala Sivalingam and traded together. The brothers lived in a joint family. All the expenses incurred by the family were met from the proceeds of the trade they carried on. Meanwhile a son was born to Sivalingam, and he was named Ramunnah. After Ramunnah grew of age, his marriage along with that of Venkiah, his uncle was performed. Afterwards in the year 1848 a son was born to Venkiah who was named Govindu. The business was running smoothly for sometime and in the year 1851, they sustained a loss of about Rs. 20,000, and so the brothers after a brief consideration brought the business to a standstill. The year 1851 marked an epoch in the history of the Muthyala family.

The loss upset the harmonious working of the family. Sivalingam and Ananthiah as working partners joined a Marwari firm which went under the name and style of Seetharam Rampratab. Ramunnah joined the firm of one Bansilal and worked there. Venkiah opened a small retail grain shop, where he did not fare well and so he too joined the firm of one Anantaram Balchand. These facts we are able to gather only from certain account books of these several firms and as no further records are available we are unable to say anything more about the detailed history of the family about this period. In the year 1870 Venkiah opened a shop under the name and style of Muthyala Moniah, his second son. He worked in it until the day of his death and the business was continued under the management of Mr. Moniah. By then Sivalingam grew old and infirm and so his son Ramunnah was obliged to leave Bansilal's firm and join his father and uncle in the year 1857. The business that Sivalingam and Ananthiah carried on sustained loss again and the creditors were paid out from the joint profits of the brothers, and again it is only from these accounts that we are able to say something about the business carried on by the family. After some time Govindu, before mentioned, joined Ananthiah and Ramunnah, uncle and cousin brother respectively, and worked with them in the firm of Seetharam Rampratab. Meanwhile Ananthiah died in the year 1879. After three years as the business prospered well Ramunnah and Govindu purchased outright the shares of the other partners, Seetharam and Rampratab, and established themselves as the sole proprietors under the name of Muthyala Ramunnah and Govindu, and since then the firm became the family concern.

Ever since the inception of the firm in the name of the family the business has been prospering on well and the family was enjoying peace and plenty. After having enjoyed the harmonious working of the firm Ramunnah died early in the year 1915. After the death of Ramunnah there seems to have arisen a dispute in the family over the division of property.

Rao Bahadur Muthyala Venkatakrishnayya Garu, is the third son of Venkiah Garu, who died in the year 1895. He improved the family business and added to its fame. He is the managing agent of the Hyderabad Mills and owns five hundred out of seven hundred shares. The Mills at Hyderabad are Spinning and Weaving Mills and the business is transacted under the name and title of the Hyderabad Deccan Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited. Mr. Venkatakrishnayya is also a prominent banker in the locality.

Rao Bahadur Muthyala Venkatakrishnayya is well-known in the Nizam's Dominions and is a prominent and influential wealthy gentleman. He is a great philanthropist and as such he has rendered immense service to the well-being of his fellow-beings. He takes keen interest in all the public activities and movements of the day and is ever ready to help the cause with his mind and money. He is held in respect and reverence by the members and people of his community and by the public at large.

He founded a choultry at a great cost in the busiest part of the Secunderabad city and named it as the "Kallappa Choultry." The choultry contains many spacious halls and a good many rooms and kitchens for the different castes of people that go there. Nearly five thousand people could be accommodated in it at a time. Excellent arrangements for water supply and other domestic necessities are made for the travellers that stay in the choultry. It was a longfelt desideratum and it was through the charity and generosity of Venkatakrishnayya the supply had to be made. He constructed two big halls and presented them to the Mahaboob College, besides a liberal donation of a large sum of money to the same college. He founded a Shelter Home to the poor and aged Vysias, and there they are provided with food and rations free of cost. He instituted the award of medals to the students of the local Mahaboob College under the name of Sir Stuart Fraser.

He is interested very much in reading Hindu Epics and spends most of his leisure hours in reading them. In recognition of his public services he has been awarded the title of Rao Bahadur by the British Government. He is at present blessed with a son.

Durvasulu Garu's family (page 95)

M. N. Sikkanna Chettiar
(page 96)

C. Appalaswamy Reddy
(page 96)

Seela Veerabhudrudu (page 90)

Rai Saheb Chidura Kanthayya Duruvasulu Garu, Contractor, Secunderabad, Deccan, comes of a well-known respectable Vysia family of Secunderabad that came and settled at Secunderabad generations ago. The family dealt in cloth business and banking besides being general merchants and contractors. The business was amply developed and was placed on a firm footing by Chidura Vasudev, the grandfather of Mr. Duruvasulu.

Rai Saheb Chidura Kanthayya Duruvasulu is the son of Chidura Kanthayya, the son of Chidura Vasudev before mentioned. Rai Saheb Duruvasulu Garu was born in the year 1898 at Secunderabad. He was educated early in Telugu and English, in which languages he has become proficient now. While he was eighteen years of age, in the year 1915, his father passed away, and so young Duruvasulu had to look after his father's business and take life upon himself. Since then his talents and industry stood best in him, and he has been improving and developing his business so much and so well that he is now the leading contractor and banker of the Vysia community of Secunderabad.

Rai Saheb Duruvasulu Garu is also a public spirited gentleman of the day and he has been rendering immense services to the many public organisations and functions, by his hearty co-operation and help. His services to the cantonment committee were recognised by his being presented with a certificate of honor. He is the founder of many public places at Secunderabad. He built a spacious hall in the Girls' Patasala at Secunderabad, which was opened by Col. Pintey, the then British Resident at Hyderabad. He also constructed a pavilion in the cantonment in the nursery gardens at Secunderabad. He founded a choultry at Barimpatalam, where a number of Brahmins are daily fed free. He is highly philanthropic and generously gave away liberal donations to the War Fund, to the Madrasa Islamic buildings, to the Viceroy's Leper Fund and to the Japan Relief Fund. He presented free a Tuberculosis ward, constructed at his own cost to the King Edward Memorial Hospital, Secunderabad, whose opening ceremony was performed in the year 1919 by the Hon'ble Sir Stuart Fraser, the Resident at Hyderabad. He supplied free electric lighting to the health camp at Karabala maidan at Secunderabad in the year 1924, when the virulent epidemic plague raged in Secunderabad. On a similar occasion in 1926, he freely presented twenty iron beds to the cantonment infectious disease hospital for the poor and he also opened a child welfare centre at Bolaram. His sympathy and generosity were ever towards humanity and their sufferings.

He also holds a few honorary positions and as such is the honorary treasurer of the Hyderabad Deccan Chamber of Commerce. He was one of the Directors of the Hyderabad Co-operative Dominion Bank.

He is a freemason of the lodge Ekram, Secunderabad. Rai Saheb Duruvasulu Garu is a courteous gentleman and is a pleasant and happy friend to acquaint with. In recognition of his many-sided public activities and services the Government honoured him with the title of Rai Saheb in the year 1922.

Mr. Torayur Subbu Chetty Garu, Cloth Merchant, Bellary, is the son of late T. Balavenkatarama Chetty of Torayur in Trichinopoly District who was a general merchant at Torayur.

Mr. Subbu Chetty was born in 1878 at Torayur in Trichinopoly District. His brother-in-law late Mr. Golkonda Kristappa Chetty who was a cloth merchant brought Mr. Subbu Chetty to Bellary and educated him. Mr. Subbu Chetty had a fair training in vernacular and English and passed his Matriculation in 1900. Mr. Kristappa Chetty was a Municipal councillor and Honorary Magistrate and was a leading and well-known cloth merchant of Bellary. He was much respected by his community and was a charitable man. He established a free boarding and lodging house for Vysya students in Bellary at a cost of Rs. 40,000.

Mr. Subbu Chetty took over the business of his brother-in-law himself in 1912 on his demise and is now one of the leading merchants of Bellary. He stocks all kinds of silk and laced cloths.

Mr. Subbu Chetty was an Honorary Magistrate from 1912 to 1922, and is a Municipal councillor from 1922 onwards. He was the president of the Village Panchayat Court during the years 1921-1923. He was the non-official visitor of the Alipuram jail in Bellary. He was the president of the local Hindu Mutual Benefit Fund in Bellary. He was one of the members of the committee to Sree Nagareswaraswamy temple in Bellary, and is one of the Trustees of Golkonda Kristappa charities. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the S. P. C. A.

He is connected with almost all charitable and public movements of the place and interests himself in all civic affairs of the place. He is one of the few enlightened and educated men of his community.

Mr. Muthyala Narayanappa, a renowned Cotton Merchant and Commission Agent of Bellary is the son of late Mr. Nagappa and was born in 1883. The ancestors of this family were large dealers in grains and cotton besides banking to a certain extent. Mr. Nagappa was a friend of the poor and needy and was of a nature exceedingly compassionate. He had a religious bent of mind of a high order, took great delight in hearing puranas and was a trustee to the Nageswaraswamy temple at Bellary. Mr. Narayanappa after finishing his early education turned his attention in his sixteenth year to his

father's business. He received a good business training from his father and after his demise took up the management of the business himself.

In memory of his departed parents Mr. Narayanappa endowed a sum of Rs. 5,000 to a hostel where boarding and lodging is given free to Vysia students. He built a house next to the hostel named 'Mandira' and the house is freely given for marriage purposes. Sadhus are given Sadhavartha daily. He is a trustee of the Nageswaraswamy temple at Bellary and a life member of the local Cosmopolitan Club and besides a committee member of the S.P.C.A. In 1921 he opened a Cotton Ginning Factory under the name of Sri Lakshmi Venkateshwara Cotton Ginning Factory in Thekkaladota in Bellary District and another by name Chandramouleswara Ginning Factory at Siriguppa. He owns many houses and godowns at Bellary. He fairs well in all his business activities and he is continuing the charities started by his forefathers.

M.R.Ry Chukka Appalasawmi Reddi and **Mr. Narasimham Reddi** are the two sons of late Mr. Chukka Ramasawmi Reddi of Rajahmundry and comes of the Panta sub-sect of the Reddi community. Late Chukka Ramasawmi Reddi is the son of Chukka Appalasawmi Reddi and was born in the year 1865 in the village of Kakarapalle in the District of Vizagapatam. Late Chukka Appalasawmi Reddi, the grandfather of Mr. Chukka Appalasawmi Reddi, was the first to come to Rajahmundry in the year 1880, with all his children and no money at all. His son late Mr. Ramasawmi Reddi had a knack and interest for business. He soon opened a business concern on a small scale, exporting salt and rice to the Agency tracts of Bhadrachalam, Dummagudem, and other places and also exchanging the same for forest produce, pulses, etc. The business improved well and developed so much that soon branches had to be opened at Bhadrachalm, Dummugudem, Patigapuram, Chandrapatea, and Tallagudem. Late Ramasawmi Reddi soon earned a good name and fame, and the road to wealth was wide open to him. He purchased landed estates in the Godaveri District, houses and godowns at Rajahmundry and also amassed cash.

He was very pious and religious and constructed a temple dedicated to Sri Rama at Aryapur in Rajahmundry. He was very charitable and subscribed considerable amounts to the maintenance of choultries. This popular personage soon had the divine call and passed away on the 14th of November in the year 1918.

After the death of Mr. Ramasawmi Reddi his second son Mr. Chukka Appalasawmi Reddi entered into business in 1918 with practically no training whatever. The management of the business is continuously carried on, ever improving and ever increasing.

Mr. Chukka Appalasawmi Reddi was born in March in the year 1898 at Rajahmundry and was given a sound and liberal education in Telugu and English till the year 1916. During his school days he was known for an intelligent and hard-working student and he was very good at games especially in football, hockey and cricket, which hobby he still continues. His father was very much inclined to train the boy for business and so he was forced to give up his education to be trained under his father in business. The firm was named Chukka Ramasawmi Brothers & Sons with Rajahmundry as its Head-Quarters and Mr. Chukka Appalasawmi Reddi was appointed its Managing Proprietor. New lines of business were added such as dealings in timber, pulses, etc.

Mr. Chukka Narasimham Reddi, the elder brother of C. Appalasawmi Reddi, is equally well educated and intelligent and he is also a partner in the business. He is managing the business at Sironcha and Ahiri in the Central Provinces and he is also a forest contractor there. He exports timber to Rajahmundry where the Head Office is located and the timber is carried to Rajahmundry in logs along the river Godaveri.

Mr. Chukka Appalasawmi and Mr. Narasimham though quite young are managing the business capably and the family property has been considerably improving and is well added to, year after year. They have built two very decent storied buildings on a new plan and design at Aryapuram for their residence and one of them is named "Rama Vilas."

Mr. Chukka Appalasawmi Reddi is also a public worker and is on the Municipal Council since the year 1921. He also competed for the recent University elections held at Madras in January 1926, but unfortunately failed for want of two votes. He is the leader of the Reddi community at Rajahmundry and as such devotes much time and money for its uplift and improvement. He is spending much for the education of the children of his community and has endowed several institutions in the locality with liberal donations. His philanthropic attitude towards the Reddi community has raised him to the position of the president of Reddi Mahajana Sangam. He is also the director of the Co-operative Bank at Aryapuram. He is quite young, very civil and courteous and has many years of useful service to the country before him.

Mr. M. N. Sikkanna Chettiar, Yarn Merchant, Tiruppur, (Coimbatore Dt.) is the son of M. Nanjappa Chettiar. Mr. Nanjappa Chettiar was a cloth, yarn and grain merchant, and in his days he fast developed the business and was enjoying excellent profits and prosperity. He was importing yarn from Greanes Cotton Company of Bombay and it was in the year 1909 that it was added to the main

88

M. Narottam Das (page 93)

C. Bappu of the Imperial Weaving Est., (page 83)

M. R. Subbiah Chettiar (page 97)

T. Subbu Chetty Garu, Bellary (page)

business. They have now a branch in Triplicane, Madras, purely dealing in clothes. During his last days he was considered to be a big merchant and was well known in the District.

His father was also the agent of the Kaleswar Spinning Company of Coimbatore, the Malabar Spinning and Weaving Company of Calicut, and was distributing yarn for Tiruppur, Pollachi, Erode, Madura, Madras and Arani.

Mr. Nanjappa Chettiar was a very religious and orthodox person, with a charitable disposition. At Avansi a village near Tiruppur he had built extensions to a choultry that was in a dilapidated condition with insufficient accommodation. In the same place, during the car festival all the poor are fed throughout the ten days of the festival and it is continued even to this day. At Avanasi and Palani he has built certain portions of the choultries there where pilgrims are provided with accommodation and cooking utensils. He was very pious and God fearing. He passed away in the year 1921.

Mr. Sikkanna Chettiar, the present Managing Director of the firm, was born at Gavapathypalyan, a village in Palladam Taluk, in the year 1884. He was given only vernacular education up to his 16th year and after a time he joined his father's business, to have an early training. While he was only twenty years of age he was entrusted with the management of the several branches of the firm, which were then being opened by his father at Cannanore, Mangalore and Triplicane. Now all the branches have been closed except the one at Triplicane.

He is now continuing all the agency works and is managing the affairs of the business excellently well. He is also continuing all the charities maintained by his father.

He also holds many honorary offices. He is one of the Directors of the Meenakshi Sundara Vilas Nidhi, Limited, and the Tiruppur Co-operative Urban Bank, Ltd. He is the Vice-President of the Town Bank, Ltd., Tiruppur and is the joint Secretary of the Sanmarga Sangam, Tiruppur.

Mr. M. R. Subbiah Chettiar is the son of Maruthee Chettiar of Karaikudi, Ramnad District. He was born on the 25th Adi of Tharuna year corresponding to 9th August 1884. His present age is 42. He is a very rich man and belongs to a most respectable family of Kasukkarachetty community at Karaikudi and he is a diamond merchant. He is a highly charitable public worker and a founder of many philanthropic institutions. He is a member of the Taluk Board, Devakotta and also of the local Union Board. Besides this he is a member of the District Education Council. He was an Honorary Magistrate of 1st class Bench Court Karaikudi for many years. He is blessed with sons, daughters and grand-children. A list of the charitable and benevolent deeds he has performed is set forth:—

He has constructed and equipped the Madura Seva Sangam for the industrial pursuits of ladies at a cost of Rs. 22,000.

He has constructed at a cost of Rs. 10,000 and equipped and is maintaining a free dispensary at Kunnakudi with the title of Subbia free dispensary, the annual expenditure of which comes to nearly Rs. 3,000.

He has recently given a donation of Rs. 10,000 to the Girls' Home of the Madras Children Society.

He has benevolently given Rs. 5,000 to the High School at Devakota for its upkeep and maintenance.

He has given Rs. 4,250 for the Sri Ramakrishna Students' Home, Mylapore, Madras.

In his own place of Karaikudi he has been long maintaining four street gas-lights at an annual cost of more than Rs. 1,000.

He has given away several thousands of rupees for charities for the poor and like.

He has determined to devote and is devoting all his profits in his business ever since 1924 for public charities.

Mr. Vidyapravardhaka Thogari Veerappa, Merchant, Bellary was born at Mudhol, a Zamindari village in the Nizam's dominions in the year 1866. He comes of a middle class Lingayat family of the orthodox type. Very little is known of his ancestors except that they went Gulledagud from Mudhol and settled there as weavers. While he was a boy of eight years of age he was taken to Bellary from there by his uncle Mr. Senkarappa who brought him up with all fatherly care and affection being himself childless. Unfortunately Mr. Senkarappa died leaving the boy in the hands of his only surviving wife who bestowed no less care in bringing up the boy with the utmost love and affection. He was then sent to a local vernacular school where he soon won the esteem of his teachers by his winning manners.

Soon after his studies were over he was entertained as a permanent clerk in a mercantile firm run by his near relatives Sindigi Siddalingayappa and Chendrappa. Both of them died a premature death, leaving behind them their widows and a large estate.

The widows adopted from among their relatives a boy by name Uddannappa. Uddanappa was quite a minor then and his two guardians being females the sole management of their estate fell in the hands of Mr. Veerappa who managed it so capably as to make

it one of the most flourishing families of the day. Even after Uddanappa attaining majority Mr. Veerappa was not allowed to sever his connections but was looked upon as the sole guardian of the family. During his tenure of office as the manager of the estate of the family he constructed a cloth market at a cost of Rs. 20,000. This market now occupies a unique position, being in the heart of business centre and fetches now an annual rental of Rs. 10,000 nearly. Meanwhile Uddanappa also died and left a testament which was rather difficult to carry out as the matters in the domestic affairs had become very intricate and delicate. Consequentely Mr. Virappa had to lay down his office and in his case it came about as a blessing in disguise.

Mr. Virappa after his separation from Sindigi estate opened a similar business about the year 1913 in his own humble way with the monetary aid of Messrs. N. Manigond and Amaragond the two big land holders of Kungode and K. Venkata Rao one of the leading lawyers of the place. With his simple habits and straightforward ways of dealings combined with his perseverance and tireless energy he soon rose to the status of one of the leading merchants in Bellary. In the midst of his happiness he was thwarted by domestic afflictions which would have cowed down any one else but not a man of his courage and endurance.

At his age of 52 his son Mr. Veerappa after completing his studies in a High School joined him to his relief affording him leisure and time to take *some part interest* in the public movements of the Town. His activities were directed mostly towards the spread of education among Lingayats. The Madras Veerasaiva Vidyanandhaka Sangha, Bellary, of which the Lingayats of the Madras Presidency in general and the Bellary District in particular should be proud, owes not a little of its progress and its present paramount position to Mr. Veerappa. The various offices he held from time to time speak to the unostentatious service he rendered to this noble cause.

In 1922 he not only observed with a *melancholy* note the want of a suitable boarding home for the Lingayah students in Bellary coming from moffusil places but rose to the occasion himself and constructed a hostel in the extentions of the Town at a cost of Rs. 20,000 which he gifted away to the Sangha for management. It is needless to observe its utility and the cause which it has been serving from the time of its opening as a Model Hostel.

He is now the president elect of the M. V. V. Sangha which affords 9 Scholarships to College students and 25 to High School students and runs an Anglo-Vernacular School besides maintaining the above Hostel, where there are about a dozen free boarders in addition to other paying student members.

In recognition of his yeoman services rendered to the community, His Holiness the Jagadguru of Kedar Samasthanam graciously conferred on him the Title of "Vidyapravardhaka" in 1923 which he rightly deserved and awarded him a "Sanad." Mr. Vidyapravardhaka Thogari Veeratta, having done his duty to his community, has now betaken himself to the realisation of the Self and is a member of the local Theosophical Society and takes keen interest in most of the local philosophical and philanthropic institutions as well. It is also at his instance the local institution for the protection of cows, The Pinjarpole in Bellary, was started in which he is taking an abiding interest loving the dumb and the destitute cows as the real "Gomata."

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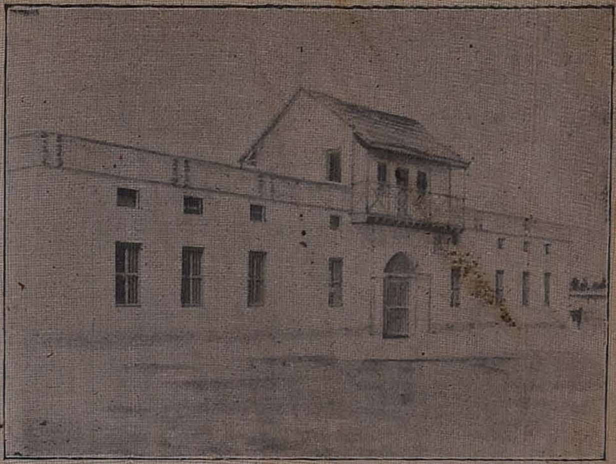
90

Mr. T. Veerappa



T. Veerappa's Lingayat Hostel

Rao Bahadur G. Seturama Chetty, Bellary

N. P. Narielwalla

Messrs. N. P. NARIELWALLA AND SONS.

1. Mr. Nowrojee Pestonjee Narielwalla was born in the year 1858 at Parel in Bombay. His father was Mr. Pestonjee Maherwanjee Narielwalla, who was the youngest grand-son of the late Mr. Nowrojee Cawasjee Narielwalla of Alleppey. Mr. Pestonjee was a man of decided character, kindly, pious, punctual, with a strict sense of duty and enlightened ideas. Mr. Nowrojee's mother was the daughter of Mr. Nuserwanjee Maherhomjee, a well known family in Bombay. This lady was an affectionate, enthusiastic woman, with more sentimental sympathy than practical wisdom in worldly matters. His parents were tolerably rich, and at that time, this young Nowrojee was put into school at the early age of five. He acquired his education at Bombay in the Government Elphinstone School. He could not continue his collegiate studies on account of his then weak health. But all the same he became proficient in many languages such as Gujarati, Persian, Hindi and English.

2. Mr. Nowrojee Pestonjee Narielwalla has set before us a splendid example by living a very noble and manly life. It is a pleasure and profit, that one should recall here some of the outstanding events of his life, a record of which, however bare, will remain an heirloom in his family, a priceless legacy for generations yet to come.

3. He began his career at the very early age of 21 as a subordinate in the military department at Mahow and Karachi, when Col. Bythul, Col. Blaf, Col. Cunningham and Gen. Dundass were presiding over it with the sternness and efficiency of military governors. That he had been able to get into their good books within the short period of four years he served under them speaks volumes of his infinite capacity and inborn love of work. This quality asserted itself in a more remarkable degree, when in the year 1885, he entered the services of Messrs. Shepherd & Co., Bombay, then proprietors of the "Bombay Steam Navigation Co.," Bombay. There he worked unlike others with a zeal that set others on fire and in a spirit that was far from mercenary. Eleven years he laboured there and during that period, he rendered yeoman service to the company. Mr. Shepherd who understood his flock singled him out for a special honor. He rose to a high position on a substantial income of Rs. 350 per mensem starting from a small income of Rs. 75 per month. While he was still in the enjoyment of such an enviable position and in the prime and bloom of his life, there came a heavenly call from the distant shores of a small and beautiful seaport town named Alleppey in Travancore, where several sections of his distinguished family had flourished remarkably well and in the enjoyment of the fullest confidenceand respect of several Maharajas and Dewans of the illustrious Travancore State. With this, the first scene in the life of Mr. Nowrojee closes and the curtain falls down. The circumstances under which Mr. Nowrojee came to Alleppey are briefly set out below.

4. The connection of the Parsees with the Travancore State begins with the early year of 1788, when his great grand-father Mr. Nowrojee Cawasjee Narielwalla came out to Travancore at the invitation of the Travancore Durbar for developing internal trade. That individual of glorious and revered fame came into possession of the whole of Alleppey extending from Kuthirapanthi on the south to Aratupuzha Lane on the north, and from the sea to Vembanad Lake, under circumstances similar to those in which Dr. Boughton got Hugli for the English from the Emperor Shajihan. This extensive property thus gloriously bequeathed by the Durbar was, in the course of seventy years that followed the death of the lamented late Mr. Nowrojee, so mismanaged by his agents that the very name of Mr. Nowrojee was on the point of being effaced once and for all from the annals of Alleppey with which he was so extremely connected, as in the year 1894, it was almost settled by the then Durbar's settlement department that the whole property had been escheated to Government.

5. It is here necessary to narrate briefly as to what led this gentleman Mr. Nowrojee Pestonjee Narielwalla to come to Alleppey from Bombay. In his boyhood, he was fond of listening to ancient family history, and so he had the tendency of giving due respect to older members of his household. He would approach them with requests to narrate to him some interesting stories, pertaining to the deeds of his forefathers. Amongst many other subjects that had been related to him, one day his great parental aunt told him the history of his forefathers. She informed him how his great grandfather Mr. Nowrojee Cawasjee Narielwalla happened to live and grow rich in Travancore. He was industrious and he always considered industry as a means of obtaining wealth and distinction. So the facts that the young Nowrojee owned a large estate in Travancore, which after the death of late Mr. Nowrojee had passed from the hands of his sons and that even his uncle and father had visited Alleppey, but were not able to develop further appealed in a strong measure and set his blood boiling with a desire to regain his ancestral holding. She further said that late Mr. Nowrojee had built a large palatial building at Alleppey. It was a magnificent ancient building which resembled a fortress.

6. It is said that at one time the late Mr. Nowrojee had some misunderstanding with his eldest son Mr. Hormusjee and this made the former feel dejected. Mr. Nowrojee had instituted

a charity at Alleppey (Sadavartha) under which rice and grains were doled out every day to the sadhus and mendicants of Alleppey. It so happened that one day a really pious Sadhu came to the doors of MR. NOWROJEE and declared to him in unambiguous language that his time at Alleppey was at an end, that his further stay in Travancore meant peril for him, that he should leave the State at once, and that a member of his third generation would rise up to resuscitate the ancient family of the NOWROJEES again and would flourish in Travancore. "Please do start to-day, for, your time is up," said the Sadhu. This made a deep impression on MR. NOWROJEE who at once left the State without even paying his respects to the then Maharaja of Travancore with whom he was bound by more ties than one. It was a time of great political agitation in the State. Dewan Raja Kesava Das of revered name had been removed from the exalted office of Dewan. The relationship between the State and the British Government was strained and the then Delava (Dewan) by his high-handed and unseemly conduct towards the Europeans and the paramount power had almost brought the State to the brink of anarchy and lawlessness. The then Maharaja was not a capable administrator and the country stood on the verge of annexation. A man-of-war attached to the East India Company touched the port of Alleppey about that time. They found a large magnificent building like a fortress, and believing it to be His Highness's fortress blew away this building. The remnants of that fort are still in existence. The visitors then landed on the shore in disguise. They found out their error that they had wrongly destroyed a building that was owned by an innocent merchant and banker. The British Government eventually taxed the Durbar with a heavy cash indemnity for the several charges brought against them. The Durbar was unable to meet with this demand. This was then communicated to late MR. NOWROJEE at Bombay. MR. NOWROJEE very generously sent his brother MR. PESTONJEE all the way to Madras to deposit a sum of one lakh and eighty thousand pagodas, then valued at Rs. 3-8 per pagoda. The Maharaja thereupon granted to MR. PESTONJEE a receipt signed by the Travancore Durbar inscribed on a copper sheet. This was in possession till very recently of MR. PESTONJEE's great grand-father in Porter's family, who during the life time and management of MR. MUNCHERJEE MAHERWANJEE NARIELWALLA approached the then Maharaja for pecuniary help for the marriage of his daughter. It is authentically known that this lady was actually paid from the Alleppey Treasury a sum of Rs. 100,000 under command of His Highness Visakam Thirunal Maharaja. When present MR. NOWROJEE grew 18 years old and was at the time of schooling, a Hindu merchant, most probably one from Alleppey or on behalf of one from Alleppey or Malabar, approached his father and uncle's aunt to transfer all their rights in Alleppey Estate for a consideration of Rs. 70,000 but a lakh of rupees was demanded by them. The present MR. NOWROJEE desired his father MR. PESTONJEE that they should go to Alleppey. His father agreed but time had not come. Some years after, MR. PESTONJEE and BAI GULBAI (the uncle and aunt of present MR. NOWROJEE) offered to go to Alleppey if the three remaining brothers had their rights assigned to them. At this time also young MR. NOWROJEE had expressed his desire to go with them to Alleppey. They had made all requisite arrangements and had even sent in advance some furniture etc., but, for some reason or other, the intended trip never took place. This was in the year 1887.

7. It was at this time about the year 1896 that the present MR. NOWROJEE PESTONJEE NARIELWALLA, who had been constantly longing to go to Alleppey, having that patriotic mind to work for the ancestors' fame, left his lucrative post and all the comforts and social charms of Bombay and set out for Alleppey to recover the ancestral property and to restore his family's prestige and honor.

8. The task that lay before young NOWROJEE was by no means an easy one; but his patience, perseverance, and strong will-power enabled him to tide over all difficulties and come out successful in the end. There was one incident in his life in that period from 1896 to 1901, an incident which shows the intensity of his hardships. One day he was reduced to such pecuniary and miserable plight that he had not a single pie to find means for his existence. Without seeking for human help, he retired into solitude and dedicated his case before His Great Task Master. The prayer was so sincere that soon after it, a tenant voluntarily paid him arrears of rent for 40 years without disputing the claim barred by limitation. This placed him above wants and his financial position became more stable. After this incident, his work of regaining the Alleppey property went on with greater ease and success. There were in all 345 pieces of landed property in the Alleppey Estate. About three thousand ryots occupied this area, under various tenancy rights. The whole area comprised in this estate was about 100 acres. About 50 to 60 acres of properties have been sold away to such tenants who before the arrival of MR. NOWROJEE PESTONJEE NARIELWALLA had made therein valuable homes and farmsteads costing some thousands of rupees. A number of law suits had been filed in the law-courts for recovery of those properties on which buildings had been erected by the tenants. Although the court had decided that the buildings should be removed as they were no improvement and that the properties must be delivered over to him, MR. NOWROJEE PESTONJEE NARIELWALLA wanted to minimise hardships to these tenants as much as possible, and so sold his Jenmi rights over these properties. Number of trial proceedings have been restored.

There are still 42 acres of landed properties in possession, the ownership of which is in the name of NOWROJEE PESTONJEE NARIELWALLA. All the legal proceedings that were instituted for establishing the title ~~and~~ acquiring possession from the refractory tenants have been decided in MR. NOWROJEE'S favour. This up-hill work for establishing MR. NOWROJEE'S right as the true heir to the late NOWROJEE'S Estate took more than five long years; but thanks to the sense of justice and fair-play of the Travancore law-courts, the claim has been decided once and for all in favour of NOWROJEE PESTONJEE NARIELWALLA.

9. It is said above, that the whole property had been escheated to the Government on account of the long absence of the heirs of the late MR. NOWROJEE CAWASJEE NARIELWALLA. The present MR. NOWROJEE having arrived in Travancore, applied to the Government to reverse the escheat proceedings that were started in respect of his estates in the year M.E. 1070 or 1894 and to make arrangements to collect the tax direct from him instead of from the tenants as was arranged during the absence of the proprietors. The Government very kindly acceeded to all the requests and in fact every legitimate facility they could offer was given. Also by Government order No. 2202/153 of 1072 or 1896, the escheat proceedings in respect of his properties were withdrawn and titles stood clean accepted by Government.

10. In the year 1897 present MR. NOWROJEE applied for the compensation money on the lands assumed by Government for making roads and canals from his ancestral estate during their absence between the year 1870 and 1894. The compensation amount was fully paid to MR. NOWROJEE by the Government under conveyance No. 39,056 of 7-6-1074 (1898) referred to above.

11. In the year 1902 MR. MUNCHERSHAW under a power from his other brothers namely MESSRS. ARDESHIR, PESTONJEE, JEHANGIR AND SHAPURJEE NARIELWALLA came from Bombay and applied to be impleaded in the suits evidently with the view of driving the thin end of the wedge for establishing a non-existent property right of MR. NOWROJEE'S Estates. In this they were not successful as by the judgment of the District Court, Alleppey, declared in the year 1905, it is found that their application was thrown out. The fact that they were not being allowed to join a person as an additional party in a suit that was filed by the present MR. NOWROJEE against a tenant of his is as follows.

12. In the year 1859, July 13th, two Gujarati releases were executed at Alleppey by MR. HORMUSJEE SORABJEE NARIELWALLA in favour of late MR. RUSTOMJEE NARIELWALLA MAHERWANJEE and others and the same was attested by Hugh Crawford and the then Superintendent of Police at Alleppey in Travancore, and the same was received by MR. RUSTOMJEE, the uncle of present MR. NOWROJEE.

13. HORMUSJEE SORABJEE NARIELWALLA was the grand-son of HORMUSJEE NOWROJEE NARIELWALLA, who was the eldest son of late MR. NOWROJEE CAWASJEE NARIELWALLA. For self and on behalf of his brothers on authority of two powers of attorney from them MR. HORMUSJEE had relinquished their right, title and interest in the properties in Travancore and at Bombay. This MR. HORMUSJEE SORABJEE NARIELWALLA was the grand-father of the present Messrs. ARDESHIR, PESTONJEE, HORMUSJEE FRAMROSE, SAPURJEE NARIELWALLA, who are now residing at Bombay, and who had as aforesaid tried to become parties in a suit that was filed against the tenants of present MR. NOWROJEE claiming to be the heirs of that branch.

14. Further in the year 1897, October 14th, the said HORMUSJEE SORABJEE NARIELWALLA admitted before the Revenue Settlement Officer at Alleppey in settlement case No. 2307 the genuineness of the two Gujaratti releases dated 13th July, 1859, and of the two powers in English dated 15th January, 1853, and 14th October, 1854. These documents were filed in the suit for proving that the children of MR. HORMUSJEE SORABJEE NARIELWALLA could have no claim over the estate at Alleppey, which is purely owned by the present MR. NOWROJEE. The applicants, namely, the grandsons of MR. HORMUSJEE SORABJEE NARIELWALLA boldly repudiated the release deeds as false and invalid. It would be of interest to know under what circumstances this release was executed.

15. The first ancestor of this family whose name as it appears on the record is MR. NOWROJEE CAWASJEE NARIELWALLA. He acquired some properties in Travancore in his own name. The rest of the properties at Alleppey appear to have been acquired in the name of MR. MAHERWANJEE NOWROJEE, the younger son, while a mortgage alone of some properties situated at Shertallay appears to have been got in the name of HORMUSJEE NOWROJEE, his elder son.

16. MR. HORMUSJEE'S 4th grandson MR. HORMUSJEE had deposed in a case in Munsiff's court Alleppey, in which it was clearly admitted that though he had been residing at Alleppey since M.E. 1027 neither he nor his brother had ever taken the rent and profits of the Alleppey properties and that MR. MAHERWANJEE'S agents had been taking the same. The late MR. NOWROJEE'S son MR. HORMUSJEE had been conducting large trade in Malabar and his business was taken up by his brother MR. MAHERWANJEE and continued in his, and his brother MR. HORMUSJEE'S son MR. SORABJEE'S joint name.

17. In the year 1857, the uncles of the present applicants and MESSRS. ARDESHIR NARIELWALLA and

others had instituted legal proceedings against the uncles of the present MR. NOWROJEE for the redemption of the properties mortgaged. This was contested by MR. MUNCHERJEE and MR. PESTONJEE. Subsequently with a view to set all quarrels and rival claims at rest the parties met and compromised the matters, all the living heirs of MR. HORMUSJEE'S branch authorising two of their brothers to execute release for their claims, supposed or real, on the NOWROJEE'S estate in favour of all the surviving younger brothers of MR. MAHERWANJEE'S branch and accordingly executed two release deeds one for MR. HORMUSJEE or on behalf of his brother on receiving a consideration of Rs.4,000. These releases and powers came into existence so far back as 1853 and 1857 when the applicants MESSRS. ARDESHIR NARIELWALLA, and others had not been born as their own father MR. SAPURJEE was one of the parties to the said power. History repeats and the bold and astounding assertion made by MESSRS. ARDESHIR NARIELWALLA and others (the petitioners) that these documents were all forgeries when produced before the court by the present MR. NOWROJEE the Judge remarked that he could not sufficiently help for he was surprised that the petitioners should have adopted the same course. The court also decided that MESSRS. ARDESHIR NARIELWALLA and others had no right to be joined as parties in any suit or proceedings connected with MR. NOWROJEE'S estates at Alleppey and Bombay. The Judge was also convinced that the petitioners MESSRS. ARDESHIR NARIELWALLA and others or their father or grand-father had never taken any part as common manager of the two branches. The petitioner MR. MUNCHERJEE NARIELWALLA'S evidence in the court shows how sadly ignorant he was of the concerns at Alleppey, showing that his father and uncles had removed all their interest long ago and if they had never thought it right to try to undo an act deliberately done by them, and that the petitioner had not dreamt until now, that he had the shadow of a claim on the present MR. NOWROJEE'S estate at Alleppey.

18. In the year 1906, MR. N. P. NARIELWALLA began opening up several avenues of business, amongst which special mention has to be made of his coir-factory, started in the year 1909 with 4 looms, under the name of N. P. NARIELWALLA & SONS. This developed since into a flourishing state and established a reputation in European, Australian and American markets. His further venture in the field of business is the inauguration of the "ALLEPPEY PRODUCE COMPANY" at Alleppey, "THE NOWROJEE COIR WORKS" at Agathummuri (Anjengo) and Kayankulam (all in Travancore) where best qualities of coir mats and matting and standard grade of coir yarn are being manufactured. A large cocoanut estate is purchased at Anjengo known as Agathummur Estate which extends to about 55 acres of land. A small estate of cocoanut palm trees is also procured at Kayankulam. His venture extended to Rubber enterprise and for this purpose a small hill of 25 acres of ground has been secured known as Kalyoor Estate. For the purpose of health resort for the members of his family, this good gentleman has procured a magnificent plot of ground wherein a large and spacious bungalow is situated at Coonoor (Nilgiris Hills) which is known as "PESHOTON HALL." He has also built a new villa in the same Peshoton Hall premises at Coonoor which is named as "MOTI VILLA."

19. These are the outstanding events of his life and his character is truly admirable. His strong sense of duty, his hatred of a life of ease and idleness, his courage to go to the front to fight the battle single handed, and above all his deep rooted faith that truth and justice will win in the end, these elements in his character will serve as a life to the other members of his family and a strength to their feet and they must be deeply grateful to God, who has endowed him with such noble qualities.

20. MR. NOWROJEE PESTONJEE NARIELWALLA is the great grand-son of MR. NOWROJEE CAWASJEE NARIELWALLA, a well known merchant of Travancore, who held extensive landed properties in Travancore, the bulk of which is situated at Alleppey and Shertallay. MR. NOWROJEE CAWASJEE NARIELWALLA, the honoured founder and backbone of "NARIELWALLA FAMILY," was born in the year 1119/1742. At the age of 18 at the call of his father, he came to Bombay in the year Y. S. 1137/1760, and settled down there.

21. Late MR. NOWROJEE CAWASJEE NARIELWALLA'S former surname was UNWALLA and was then residing in a village called Anklasawar near Bhroach. After this he came and resided in Bhroach, where he was trading in wool and was interested in agriculture. He has built a fire temple there, and one at Bombay and Alleppey as well. Sometime after he settled down at Bombay he changed his surname to that of "NARIELWALLA." He had sent one of his brothers named MR. SORABJEE to Rangoon and brought his other brother MR. PESTONJEE to Bombay who had knowledge of Ayurvedic Drugs and treatment, which is known as "HAMIM." MR. SORABJEE who had gone to Rangoon at that time had presented to the then Raja of Burma a cannon made from brass, on which he had inscribed his name also. This was then seen and examined by many Parsee travellers, amongst whom a Parsee gentleman, MR. NOWROJEE DITHIA, who visited Burma a few years ago, has related to present MR. NOWROJEE the present existence of this cannon with the inscription thereon.

22. It appears that he had not much undertaking in the business of his father, as he seems to have accepted the service of a Sait MONOCKJEE LOVIJEE WADIAJI for a short time. As most great men rose high on account of their self-efforts, like Columbus

a weaver, Franklin a journey man printer, so fortune took him to Calcutta where he had to encounter great hardships and he felt it such that he left Bombay in the Y. Z. 1140/1771. There at Calcutta, he seems to have made friendship with a European gentleman and with his advice and help he imported down sundry goods from Bombay and started doing business which brought him some profits. He did not lose the opportunity of enlarging that business as experience and support helped him to do so. At that time, as he needed help to keep up his business, he made his brother, Mr. Pestonjee to join him in the trade and keeping him at Bombay he conducted the business at Calcutta. Mr. Pestonjee was very active and intelligent. Before Mr. Pestonjee joined his brother, Mr. Nowrojee at Bombay, it is said that he was employed under a Borah (Muhammadan) merchant, who had some of the native vessels and Mr. Pestonjee was by and by made to go in this merchant's ships for trading purposes. He soon picked up Persian language which was then spoken largely in India by Imperialists as the Mughal Emperors were swaying supremacy in the land. He entered service when he was a young boy and the Borah merchant treated him as a member of his family, so much so he spoke the Persian language as his own mother-tongue. He made himself familiar with all the details of his master's business, and at this time his brother's offer to join him at Bombay came to him, and he therefore left his Borah gentleman.

23. As profits accumulated by doing business at Calcutta, Mr. Nowrojee came to Bombay and constructed some native sailing vessels which are known as Kotias. In olden times, business was largely conducted by the personal visits of the merchants from port to port in their own vessels as far as possible. The custom was that each ship was named by the owner of the ship. They loaded their ships with a certain commodity suitable for the intended port where they sell the goods and load their vessels again with some other commodity for the next port. With the help of the native vessels *i.e.*, Kotias, Mr. Nowrojee enlarged his business and extended it to other ports, and entrusted the whole conduct of his business in the hands of his honest brother, Mr. Pestonjee. At one time it so happened that a very strong squall took place in the sea, and the tindal seeing the danger anchored the ship at one of the Indian ports called Trivandrum for the safety of his vessel and cargo.

24. It is said that this port had never been known to the British nation. The then Maharaja not knowing the circumstances under which this vessel had been anchored on account of the heavy storm caught the whole vessel and the crew and the merchant, Mr. Pestonjee who was in that vessel, was also arrested and brought before the Maharaja a prisoner. Mr. Pestonjee then related the circumstances under which he happened to land at that port for safety of his life and the cargo. He, not knowing the then vernacular, described forcibly in the Persian tongue. At that time, Persian language was the Court language used by the Mughal Emperors and despatches were sent from there only in that language. The then Ram Raja listened to him very closely and desired in gratitude that he should decide to extend business with his country, and that he would in return permit him to export all the forest produce at a very nominal duty.

25. Mr. Pestonjee, having considered this offer, accepted the Maharaja's proposal. The cargo that he had in his vessel was bought over by the Maharaja at the price demanded by Mr. Pestonjee, and in return the Maharaja allowed him to load his vessel with full cargo of Travancore produce in which the chief commodity was teakwood. He went to Bombay with the cargo, and it so happened that he enlarged business by bringing in more vessels and settled down in Travancore. Mr. Pestonjee having found the port of Alleppey to be a safe port, requested the Maharaja to permit him to colonise it; accordingly he seems to have settled there for a considerably long time.

26. Mr. Nowrojee, on account of his plain living and good nature, became a great friend of the Durbâr and won the love of His Highness the Maharaja to such an extent that he became a very popular resident in the Travancore State. During this period, a niece of His Highness the Maharaja got ill with some skin-disease, which could not be cured by any medical man in the State. It was reported to the Maharaja, that Mr. Nowrojee had some drugs which might cure the sick lady. This information was entirely false. The informant who could not tolerate the kindness which the Maharaja was pouring on Mr. Nowrojee, seems to have given out this information without any basis. The Maharaja having believed it, sent for Mr. Nowrojee, and requested him to treat his niece. Mr. Nowrojee informed His Highness sincerely that nothing of the sort was in his possession; but the Maharaja would not listen and continued insisting on Mr. Nowrojee to treat his niece. Mr. Nowrojee having seen the pressure and the obstinacy of His Highness, felt a sort of fear in his mind that something bad might take place and requested His Highness to give him some time to consider about this. He was living a very religious life and, one day when he was praying before the fire with the sandal-wood burning, he fell asleep. All along his prayer and sleep, he must have been thinking of nothing but the Maharaja's request. Late in the night, he seems to have seen a vision and heard somebody speaking thus:—

"Should you melt sugar-candy in your mouth for a few days and rub some juice on the body of the sick-lady and keep her in the sun for a short time in a clean bath, you will find radical improvement."

Mr. Nowrojee having kept fresh in his memory the purpose of this dream went to His Highness early next morning and requested him to try his treatment. This treatment was tried and the lady was cured. Mr. Nowrojee, therefore, became a great favourite of the Maharaja. His Highness the Maharaja, in appreciation of his services, it is said, presented Mr. Nowrojee with a palanquin made of ivory, fully decorated, a special court dress and gifted him with the provision of all grains to suit 12 persons which is called in Malayalam "Panthrandekal & Cope," and a guard of honour consisting of twelve Nair sepoys. This unique honour was extended up to the time when his eldest grandson Mr. Muncherjee was in Alleppey.

27. Mr. Nowrojee after spending many years in Alleppey grew old. He then returned to Bombay, leaving the whole business in the hands of two of his most trustworthy managers. They were Messrs. Ferdoonjee and Dadabhoy Pestonjee Alpaiwalla. He also gave them the power of attorney. On account of the magnitude of the business that was being carried on at that time, Mr. Nowrojee possessed 28 native vessels of the types of Kotias which plied between Malabar and Bombay. Mr. Nowrojee's business also extended to China, France and Calcutta.

28. Mr. Nowrojee possessed a very large diamond-stone of considerable price and it is said that he used to send prayers through the rays that fell out of the diamond when exposed to the sun. This valuable stone was intended to be given away to Mr. Maherwanjee on his wedding-day; but when this desire was made known by Mr. Nowrojee, his eldest son Mr. Homerjee seems to have raised an objection to this proposal. This dissatisfied Mr. Nowrojee considerably, and it is reported that Mr. Nowrojee had to accept the view of his eldest son, and the diamond was retained by Mr. Nowrojee as his personal jewel.

29. Mr. Nowrojee seems to have conducted a mill, where a very superior grade of calico and silk was made. He had been exporting these goods on a large scale. French and Dutch merchants used to visit this mill in Travancore, and were taking with them in their own vessels these manufactured goods and pay their price in India. It is reported that at this time his diamond was sold to a rich French merchant by Mr. Nowrojee.

30. For the conduct of his trade the following vessels seem to have been running in his service for many years. The chief amongst them were :—

(i) S. S. "*Shahs Behram*".—This was built in America in the year 1160/1791, of 250 tons. She was brought in the name of Mr. Pestonjee. Nothing could be traced out as to what period this ship was in use by Mr. Nowrojee or what became of her after his business.

(ii) S. S. "*John Bannerman.*" This was built in Surat in the year 1186/1817 by one Mr. Behramjee Cawasjee, of 754 tons. It is not yet known in what year this particular ship was purchased by Mr. Nowrojee, but it is found that before the year 1189/1820 this ship was in the service of his eldest son who was working under the partnership of one Shah Vigelal Haruchand. After the death of his son, this ship was running under the ownership of Mr. Nowrojee. The fact that this vessel was running to European ports is seen from two original letters that are in possession of Mr. Nowrojee Pestonjee Narielwalla as addressed to Mr. Maherwanjee, the son of Mr. Nowrojee in the year 1832. It is also found that another ship was in the course of construction which was named *S. S. "Earl of Clare."* Vide letter copied below:—

This is addressed to Mr. Maherwanjee Nowrojee as the owner of this ship from Bhooj by the then Resident, Mr. J. V. Rybot. This vessel of 910 tons was possessed in the year 1201 or 1832.

Bhooj, 3rd March, 1832.

Dear Mr. Maherwanjee Nowrojee,

I am happy to be able to inform you that I have received the security bond for Rs. 30,000 returned to me by Mr. Morgan. My account for the Presidency being settled the bond was returned to me and is now therefore cancelled. I need not say how I am obliged. I feel to you for the opportunity afforded to me in that affair. Pray has your ships returned from China and have you any tea for me? If so, I shall be glad to get it, for I am much in want of good tea, the price of which I can remit to you next month with Rs. 400 (Rupees four-hundred) I owe you. I shall be glad to hear of your well doing, when you are disposed to write.

I trust you will do your best endeavours in obtaining my brother a berth in one of your ships elsewhere.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.)................................(Rybot).

P.S.—Your new ship "Earl of Clare" has it launched yet?

31. It is said that a major portion of late Mr. Nowrojee Cawasjee's wealth which was accumulated with perseverance and industrial instinct was invested largely in purchasing properties and estates. It could not be traced to which extent such properties have been purchased, but it is apparent from the fact of a receipt No. 10 obtained from Travancore in the year 1803 that a large tract of property was purchased in Alleppey by this noble person. Besides this, light has been thrown

that in the fort of Bombay an old building belonging to the then Sir HAMSHEDJEE JEEJIBHOY was purchased by MR. NOWROJEE from the son of MR. DADI BURJOR. He had reconstructed the whole building into a palatial one for the purpose of his residing in it. Another one adjacent to this building MR. NOWROJEE had purchased, is a house for his clerk, MR. SHAPOORJEE PESTONJEE. Unfortunately the heirs of both these families could not retain in their possession these buildings and properties and they were sold away in the year Y. Z. 1200 equivalent to 1831. There was another large building which was purchased by MR. NOWROJEE at Bombay in Mazgon and it was kept up for charitable purposes and was preserved by his heirs and executors till recently.

32. MR. NOWROJEE had in his service and for the management of the business in Bombay and Alleppey more than 18 assistants, who were members of his own community. MR. NOWROJEE CAWASJEE NARIELWALLA'S father, MR. CAWASJEE adopted his surname from the business he conducted *viz* cocoanut trade. The word "NARIEL" means cocoanut and "WALLA" means merchant. His start was on a very small scale, but Honesty and Perseverance were his motto, and so Providence helped him to rise to a very high level. Misfortune made him lose heavily in timber-trade at a latter age when he became old. He passed away at the age of 75 in the year Y. Z. 1194/2nd July 1825.

33. It is quite natural that when a great man passes away, there comes a certain amount of ill luck for the remaining members of his family. His second son, MR. MAHERWANJEE succeeded him as it is known that his eldest son MR. HORMUSJEE had retired from this world before MR. NOWROJEE'S death. Dice of ill-luck did not favour MR. MAHERWANJEE for the smooth running of his business and the trade of cocoanuts was constantly bringing him into pecuniary loss. MR. MAHERWANJEE expired in the year 1211/1842, 8th month and 17th day when he was 50 years old MR. MAHERWANJEE was the only son who by the grace of God got six sons, who kept up the tradition of this ancient family.

34 The estates at Alleppey and Shertallay have been registered in the name of MR. MAHERWANJEE NOWROJEE NARIELWALLA all along and possessed by the patents of MR. NOWROJEE PESTONJEE NARIELWALLA *i.e.* the father and uncles and managed by them and their legally authorised agents from time to time.

35. The late MR. NOWROJEE CAWASJEE, after a residence of 36 years in Travancore, returned in or about the year 1807, leaving the estates in the management of one Krishna Lala, his agent. After the death of MR. NOWROJEE CAWASJEE in the year 1825, his son, MR MAHERWANJEE NOWROJEE was in possession of these estates till his death in the year 1842. At this time, the eldest uncle of MR. NOWROJEE PESTONJEE NARIELWALLA *i.e.* MR. MAHERWANJEE NOWROJEE came to Travancore to see the affairs himself. Some disputes seem to have been raised by the former managers of the late MR. NOWROJEE CAWASJEE; but the Dewan of that time had, after considering the matter in detail, decided that MR. MUNCHERJEE MAHERWANJEE, the eldest uncle of MR. NOWROJEE PESTONJEE NARIELWALLA was the proper person to be put in possession of all properties as the true heir thereof and accordingly the Resident and Commercial Agent of Alleppey, acting upon the Dewan's order, recognised MR. MUNCHERJEE as such.

36. It will be interesting for the readers of this history to pore over the true copy of the original order passed by the then Resident of Travancore, MR. W. CULLEN, which runs as under.

Endorsement of Petition No. 975 of 1848.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE,
COCHIN, *2nd December*, 1848.

The Resident learns by a receipt No. 1407 of the 27th instant., from the Dewan of Travancore that as it appeared both by the personal enquiries of that Officer as the present Head of the family to the profession and management of the Estate left by the late NOWROJEE CAWASJEE in Travancore, and that NOWROJEE EDULJEE, while only an agent of SUNDERJEE SORABJEE, according to his own declarations both before MR. CRAWFORD and THE MUNSIFF, and while he had no authority to produce in support of his title to the charge of this Estate of NOWROJEE CAWASJEE has taken forcible profession of the property from Krishna Lala, a person who was long in charge of it and the said Lala will therefore be placed again in profession, same for and on behalf of MUNCHERJEE MERWANJEE and this decision will be made known through MR. CRAWFORD to the parties at Bombay.

(Sd.)................(W. CULLEN).

RESIDENT'S OFFICE,
TRIVANDRUM,
24th October, 1854.
RESIDENT.

37. Accordingly, it is recorded that all the documents that were in the name of NOWROJEE MAHERWANJEE NARIELWALLA were given to Mr. MUNCHERJEE and all those that were registered in the name of MR. HORMUSJEE NOWROJEE NARIELWALLA were retained by the then Durbar. All these are now handed over by the Travancore Government to the present MR. NOWROJEE PESTONJEE NARIELWALLA.

38. After the lapse of some years, MR. MUNCHERJEE retired to Bombay being relieved by the second uncle MR. RUSTONJEE and father PESTONJEE of

present Mr. Nowrojee who came to Alleppey to look after the property. In their turn after some years they returned to Bombay and Krishna Lala, Anoop Sing and Girdazing Thorsing were appointed as agents turn by turn till the year 1872. Thakorsing seems to have left Alleppey about the year 1876 and since then a Parsee priest of the fire-temple at Alleppey was given power to conduct the management of the Alleppey property. This Parsee priest having left Alleppey after some time, Girdazing was managing the business till the year 1879, when one Joseph Antony Periera was appointed as agent. This man subsequently proved to be far from honest and upright in his dealings and instead of collecting the rents from the tenants and paying the annual Government dues as he was directed to do, he quite contrary to the authority given to him by the power of attorney went on giving the lands on lease to some tenants at very ridiculously low rate of yearly rent and at a subsequent period withheld paying the Government tax when it was due and got several of the compounds sold away for such Government dues. This he had done by the instigation of one of the tenants occupying those gardens who managed to buy the property worth about Rs. 10.000 for a nominal sum of Rs. 300. Having come to know about such malpractices of that agent, the parent of present Mr. Nowrojee had to revoke the power of attorney given to him and had informed the Alleppey public thereof through the Commercial Agent of that place. After that period no agents were appointed at Alleppey. The Government dues were sent from Bombay directly by the parents of this gentleman. At that time, the Travancore Government was good enough to recover the dues from the tenants directly. In the year 1886, His Excellency The Dewan of Travancore appointed the assistant Dewan Peshkar to look after and fix the amount of tax to be received from each tenant individually and the title deeds of the immovable properties together with some Gujarati accounts and other papers relating to the estate were taken charge of by that Officer and deposited at the Commercial Agent's Office to be returned to Mr. Nowrowjee Cawasjee.

39. In the year 1896, the present Mr. Nowrojee Pestonjee Narielwalla came to Alleppey with the full power from his father and uncles and established his rights as the true owner of the estate. In the Government Order, No. 11 of 1897 it was decided by the Sircar to receive the tax from the present Mr. Nowrojee Pestonjee Narielwalla.

40. It was a great work in a Native State for Mr. Nowrojee to recover all the documents and other papers relating to their estate. There were certain lands acquired by the Government for building roads etc., the compensation of which also was recovered by the present Mr. Nowrojee Pestonjee Narielwalla in the year 1899.

41. After the arrival of Mr. Nowrojee, history shows that many Parsee families started residing at this Coast besides his clerks and assistants. He being a very religious person erected a fire temple and a tower of silence at Alleppey and fire temples at Bombay and Broach.

42. In the year 1807 the late Mr. Nowrojee Cawasjee Narielwalla had built a temple and a tower of silence at the Port of Alleppey in Travancore, Malabar Coast. This tower of silence was lying in a bad condition. In this, shrubs and small trees were growing and the door at the entrance of this was in a dismantled condition. It is now kept clean by the present owner, Mr. Nowrojee Narielwalla. The fire temple was in a safe condition when present Mr. Nowrojee arrived in the year 1896. In that fire temple, there lived a mobed (Parsee priest) by name Arverd Pestonjee Dakoorjee Rustom Dadina. At that time the Parsees who lived on the Coast at distant villages used to partake the usage of this fire temple. Most of the children belonging to the then Parsee residents on this Coast were brought to Alleppey for the conduct of the "Navajot Ceremony." In that fire temple about 50 years ago a Parsee child by name Sait Maherwanjee Messman had undergone the Navajot ceremony, who recently lived in the town of Cannanore.

43. Sait Nowrojee Cawasjee Narielwalla had built a fire temple in Bombay at Mount Road in his property known as Narielwadi. This fire temple was opened on Arebesht-Roge in the month of Ady Yazada Shenhenshaji 1181 which is equivalent to our date 3rd June 1822. This pious gentleman before his demise in the year 1825 handed over the management to his son, Mr. Maherwanjee Nowrojee Narielwalla, whose death also took place in the year 1844 and the management thence went into the hands of his four sons namely, Messrs. Mancherjee, Rustomjee, Hormusjee and Pestonjee. It is necessary to record as to what led this fire temple to be removed and the holy fire to be placed at Dadar Naigam Road from Mott (Mazhgoan). There was a very extensive property attached to this temple at Mount Road and in the year 1896 the British Government requested for the purpose of public development and the same was purchased from the then trustees. The four brothers mentioned above found that the Zoroastrian community were growing in large numbers at Dadar and its other adjacent places and settled to reconstruct the fire temple at this place. At this time when the contemplation for removal of this fire temple was under consideration, the eldest brother Mr. Mancherjee who was largely interested and enthusiastic for re-building the fire temple died, and so followed his second brother Mr. Rustomjee; but with the grace of Almighty Lord, the remaining two brothers Messrs. Hormusjee & Pestonjee got the fire temple completed, the foundation stone of which was laid on the

15th May, 1899. A magnificent building was erected at a great sacrifice and with great difficulty so far as finance was concerned. The fire temple was congregated and thrown open on the 1st April, 1901.

44. The fire temple was built on a plan prepared from Teheran, Persia which was sent by one Mr. Manackjee Cawasjee Limjee Hataria. This plan came in a shape of a model carved on a polished marble stone. Near this fire temple a storied building has been erected for the use of the priests. A separate hall has been built for the purpose of Navajot and marriage ceremonies and for such rites and ceremonies conductive to Muktqd prayers. A separate building has been erected for kitchen purpose. A beautiful small structure has been erected for Zoroastrians who come in to wash their hands and feet before they enter the fire temple. The then trustees and the heirs of Mr. Nowrojee Cawasjee Narielwalla has spent over Rs. 70,000 for the purpose of those buildings at Dadar. The funds for constructing this fire temple and buildings have been met solely from the sale proceeds of the waste lands and other properties that were purchased and retained by late Mr. Nowrojee Cawasjee Narielwalla which as aforesaid was sold to the British Government and the value realised from this property has been faithfully utilised for this construction. By the grace of God the trustees of this fire temple had no occasion to seek the help and assistance of other gentries to invite public subscriptions, but it is felt proud that their ancestors who left such landed properties assisted their heirs to fulfill their obligations. Very recently after the death of the late two brothers, their sons are now the trustees who are Messrs. Nowrojee Narielwalla, Dr. Bapoojee Narielwalla and Merwanjee Rustomjee Narielwalla. It will be of further interest to note that the remaining portion of properties which were in their possession had recently been sold to the Bombay Improvement Trust when there was the loom for the values of the properties. It is said that over 35 lakhs have been procured by the present trustees and put into safe custody in Government loan and papers. So on the whole the funds for the upkeep of these charitable institutions can safely be taken care of by the present trustees and their generations for many many years to come.

45. Mr. Nowrojee Pestonjee Narielwalla has now well established himself in Alleppey after a somewhat chequered career. He is now the head of a firm of coir mats and mattings for which the State of Travancore is famous. He guides the business with much ability and foresight. It may be said that a major portion of the now extensive business carried on in the various parts of Travancore is to a great extent due to the pioneer efforts made by him in the early stages of the manufacture as also the first firm to manufacture fancy mattings. His efforts were well rewarded in that manufactured product. Mats and mattings of the firm of Messrs. N. P. Narielwalla & Sons., command a sustained reputation for their best quality and variety of design in the London markets and as a result of this large export, trade is made in the continent in addition to other large cities and countries of trade like New York and Sydney in America and Australia.

Mr. Nowrojee Pestonjee Narielwalla has thus given a brilliant example to his younger members of his family and also to the whole Indian community at large what honesty and patient bearing coupled with intelligence can achieve.

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